

Vermont Country Sampler

Free

June
2015

N. Cassidy

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Dining, Real Estate
Strawberry Festivals

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Wardsboro's 66th Annual 4th of July Street Fair & Parade

In 1949 the first 4th of July Street Fair & Parade was held on Main Street, to raise funds to pay the pastor. The ladies of the church put on a dinner in the town hall, sold fancy work from a booth, kept kids busy with games, and considered the day a success. It was enjoyable, a way to celebrate Independence Day, get the community together, and increase the church's treasury all at the same time. This year, 66 years later, it's still happening and for the same reasons.

The heart of the day is the eclectic parade. Not only is pre-registration not required, but the parade passes through town two times, moving from the South Wardsboro road to the town park on Main Street, turning around and going back to the starting point.

Homemade food can be found in abundance, from Strawberry Shortcake in the Vestry, to the Chicken Barbeque near the town hall, to the Bake Shop and the pies in the town hall. And don't forget the coffee and donuts outside the town hall. The Hamburger Booth supplies visitors with traditional 4th of July food—hot dogs, French fries and hamburgers.

An unusually varied collection of quilts, old and new, are displayed on pews in the Methodist Church.

There will be 50 or more vendors and crafters lining Main Street. The library book sale on the lawn, and the Friends of the Library

Art Show are popular venues. Games for kids will be run by teens, perhaps with relay races and game booths, including a high striker for kids of all ages to test their strength in ringing the bell at the top. Mark Lohr and his Family Circus will entertain the crowd in the afternoon. Country and bluegrass music will be performed on the street or in concert. Wrap-up for the day will be the Duck Race in the nearby river, benefiting the Wardsboro Public Library.

The History House on Route 100 will have a display of antiques, usually from local enterprises from the past two or three hundred years. The Fire and Rescue Department will be open to visitors as the trucks and firefighters stand ready to help if needed.

The Wardsboro 66th Annual Street Fair & Parade is sponsored by the Wardsboro Yoked Parish. It is the Parish's annual fund raiser. The funds will help pay the pastor's salary and go out into surrounding communities in the form of helping those in need.

The day begins at 9 a.m. and ends later-in-the-day.

For more information about Wardsboro's 66th Annual 4th of July Street Fair & Parade visit www.4thofjulywardsboro.com. Or you can contact Nancy at (802) 896-6141, or Phil at (802) 365-4024.



Canada geese on Noyes Pond at Seyon Ranch State Park in Groton, VT. photo by Nancy Cassidy

June Journal

The Pond

by Bill Felker

Several years ago, my wife and I dug a small pond in the back yard. With fish and plants, it has been a successful and rewarding habitat. What surprised me about it this summer was that, with its maybe 75 square feet of surface, the pond satisfied all my youthful passion for much larger bodies of water.

We made a short trip along the southern coast early in June, and we walked a little on the beaches. As I looked out over the curved blue horizon, I felt none of the great longing I used to feel when I visited the shoreline. Now I felt how impossible that vague dream of the water had become, how inaccessible the adventures, the infinite variety of creatures. When we went to the ocean a few years ago, I felt the same emptiness, and I was disappointed that the thrill of the sea had disappeared before I had taken enough time to embrace it.

One evening a few weeks ago I sat by the pond, surrounded by trees and flowers. As I fed the three fish, enjoyed the light breeze and watched a spider spinning its web above the

lily pads, I realized that I now preferred this small pool to an ocean or lake. Here was a place within my power. Here was wildlife enough for me to watch. Here the fish would eat from my hand. Here were six kinds of plants blooming on their own schedules, plenty to keep track of, plenty for measuring time.

The horizon was not the globe's aloof, ever receding promise. I could touch the horizon, and my reach for once did not exceed its grasp. I gave in to this homely sea, its borders as fixed and finite as my own.

Old-Fashioned Strawberry Supper in Dummerston Center

The Dummerston Congregational Church is holding its Old-Fashioned Strawberry Supper on Saturday, June 27 in the Evening Star Grange Hall in Dummerston Center from 5-7 p.m.

Enjoy ham, baked beans, potato salad, tuna-macaroni salad and coleslaw, a variety of sweet breads, and various beverages. Dessert features "all you can eat" old-fashioned whole strawberry shortcakes with real whipped cream and locally-grown strawberries. These cakes

are brought to the table and served to our guests by our smiling, helpful waitresses & waiters. No reservations are needed. Adults \$10, children 6 and under \$5.

There is ample parking and the hall is handicapped accessible.

The Evening Star Grange Hall is at 1008 East-West Rd. in Dummerston Center, VT. For info call (802) 257-0544 or (802) 257-1128 or visit www.dummerstonchurch.org. On Facebook.

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June 2015, Vol. XXX
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Festivals, Music, Quilts & Strawberries!

59th Vermont Dairy Festival

June 4-7 • Enosburg Falls, VT

A Vermont tradition, a four-day festival celebrating all things dairy. Vermont's longest parade, the famous chicken barbeque, pig races, pancake breakfast, horse pull, baking contest, car show, country music, midway, pageant, fireworks, activities and more. Organized by The Enosburg Falls Lions Club. Rain or shine. Admission. (802) 933-4134. www.vermontdairyfestival.com.

32nd Annual Discover Jazz Festival

June 5-14 • Burlington, VT

A 10-day festival that brings together live music lovers of all ages. Events and performances happen throughout downtown Burlington. See the Wayne Shorter Quartet, Spanish Harlem Orchestra, Soule Monde, Mavis Staples, Oscar Peñas Quartet, Sneakers Jazz Band, and many more. Tickets sold at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com.

Strolling of the Heifers Weekend

June 5-7 • Brattleboro, VT

A weekend of fun and education for the whole family. The world-famous Strolling of the Heifers parade June 6 at 10 a.m. on Brattleboro's historic Main Street. When it's over, follow the crowd to the all-day, 11-acre Slow Living Expo for food, music, dance, demonstrations, exhibits and fun. Events all weekend. (802) 246-0982. www.strollingoftheheifers.com.

29th Annual Antique and Classic Car Show

June 6-7 • Manchester Center, VT

The best antique and classic cars, food vendors and flea market in the northeast! Car parade through town on Saturday at 4 p.m. Competitions with awards given to first and second place winners, special awards and first place in the "best of" categories. Rt. 30, Dorr Farm, (802) 362-6313. www.manchestercarshow.com/wordpress1.

Quechee Hot Air Balloon, Craft and Music Festival

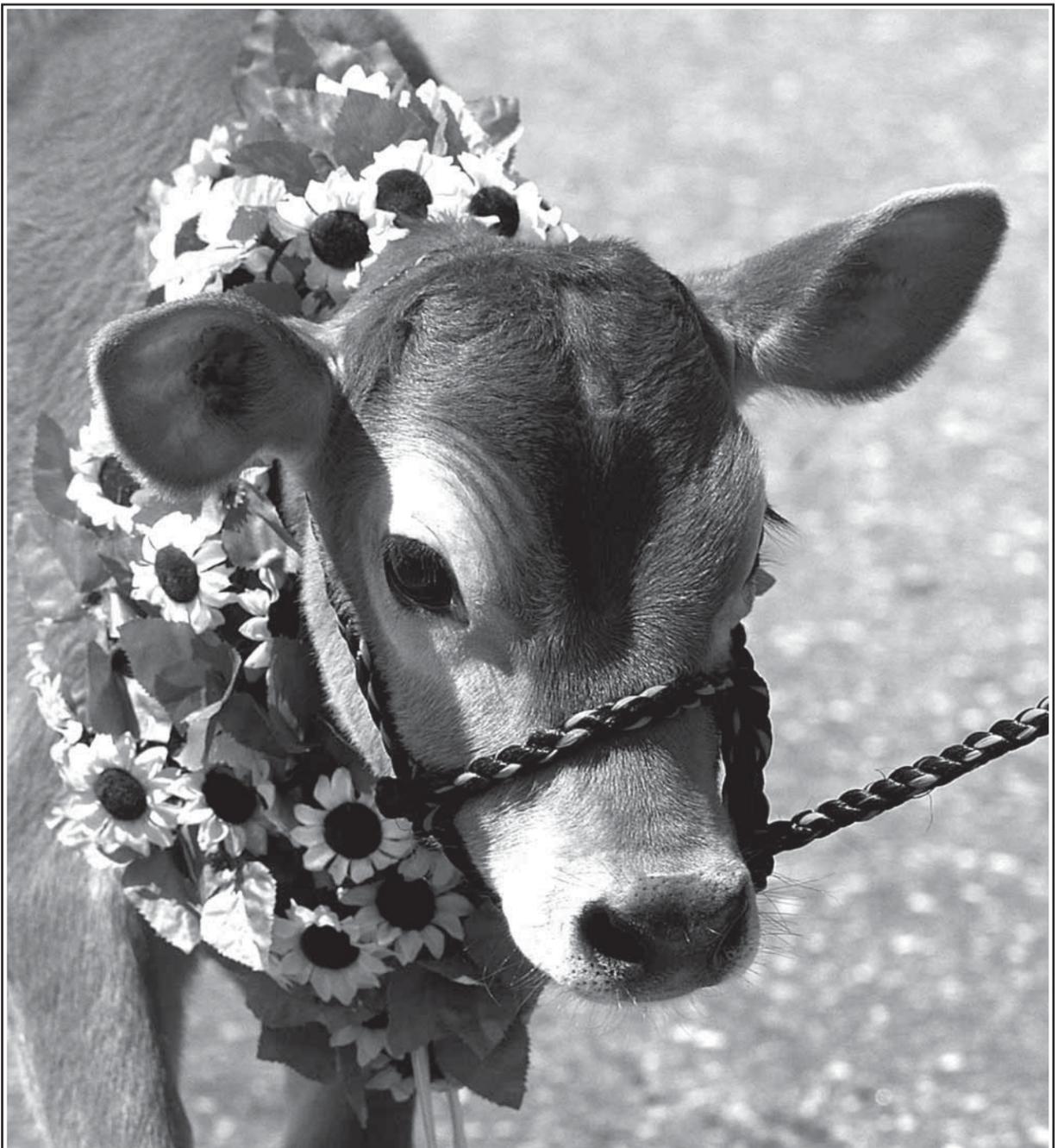
June 19-21 • Quechee, VT

Once again, the skies over Quechee and the Upper Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire will be filled with hot-air balloons for one of the longest running hot air balloon festivals in New England. Over 20 hot air balloons, with five flights scheduled throughout the festival with additional tethered rides during the day. Continuous music and entertainment for all ages; over 60 craft artisans and commercial vendors; children's activities including train rides, a bounce house and more; festival food with local healthy options and a beer and wine garden. Admission: adults, 13+, \$15; children 6-12, \$5; 5 years and under, free. On Quechee Green. (802) 295-7990. www.quecheeballoonfestival.com.

Vermont Quilt Festival,

June 26-28 • Essex Junction, VT

Some of the best antique and new quilts from across the country. A visual feast of color and design in hundreds of eye-popping quilts on display in two large exhibit halls. Shop the merchants mall with its colorful array of wares and learn more about quilting at the free gallery talks and vendor demonstrations. Lectures, classes, quilt appraisals and more round out the weekend at New England's oldest and largest quilt event! Admission: one-day \$12, two-day \$22, three-day \$32, children under 14 free with paying adult. At the Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. www.vqf.org.



A beautiful Jersey heifer ringed with daisies in the Strolling of the Heifers Parade & Festival in Brattleboro, VT.

Rockfire 2015

June 26-28 • Barre, VT

A unique combination of art, music and fire on a monumental scale, celebrating central Vermont's colorful granite heritage, set in the abandoned quarries and granite ruins. Saturday the 27th: evening picnic concert with Bow Thayer, a molten-iron performance, and a three-mile long procession lit by thousands of luminaries with dozens of bonfires, all leading to fire-lit art installations and live performance stages. Admission: adults \$10-\$25, ages 10-17 \$5-\$12. At The Lodge at Millstone Hill. (802) 479-1000. www.rockfirevt.com.

Mid Summer Festival

June 27 • Middlebury, VT

An annual outdoor event celebrating some of Vermont's finest beer, wine, cider, spirits, cheese and phenomenal food as well as music and on-site games and entertainment all with the stunning scenery overlooking the downtown falls.

Sample dozens of local products. Enjoy music fit for your dancing shoes. Savor barbeque flavors to swoon over. 3-7 p.m. at the Historic Marbleworks District. www.experience-middlebury.com.

13th Annual Strawberry Festival

June 28 • East Thetford, VT

Cedar Circle Farm invites you to their Strawberry Festival now in its 13th year. Children's crafts and games, theatrical performances, live music, horse-drawn wagon rides, educational activities and displays, self-guided farm tour, strawberry picking, homemade strawberry shortcake, grilled local sausages, fresh salads, organic local ice cream, and more! Fun for the whole family, rain or shine. \$10 per car (carpooling strongly encouraged). Walk or bike and get in free! Help us to reduce waste, bring your own plate, cup, and silverware. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. At 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. cedarcirclefarm.org.

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Calling All Artists

Plein Air Season is Here

by Nancy Lent Lanoue

What is as stimulating as a book club, as exhilarating as a Saturday hike, or as hands-on as gardening in your back yard? According to Robert Carsten, PSA-M (Master Pastel Artist), painting “en plein air” is a creative art experience that is gaining popularity in the nation and Vermont.

I recently attended a talk by this nationally known artist and teacher to learn more about how to successfully paint out in the fresh air. With spectacular views in just about every direction in Vermont, the artist can emerge in all of us with brush in hand and a few harmonious colors in pastel, watercolor, oil, acrylic, pen, or pencil.

In the French pronunciation, “en” sounds like “on” without the “n”. Say “plein” like the English word “plan”. Regardless how you say it, this style of painting in natural or populated surroundings can be a spontaneous and fun pastime or a serious pursuit. A purist would capture the moment and leave the painting untouched when done while others get a good start outdoors for two or three hours and bring his or her creation back home or to a studio for finishing touches.

It started with the Impressionists

The early Impressionist painters are credited with inventing plein air painting in the 1850's. Claude Monet is the most famous French Impressionist who, along with his contemporaries invented the French Easel, an easel that folds for easy transport, works like a tri-pod, and accommodates canvas and paints. Frederick Church, father of the Hudson River School of painting is most noted in the United States.

Carsten explained that the principle running through Impressionism and today's plein air painting is that the source and angle of light as it hits the object is paramount in the composition. He said that to capture the moment, a painter has about three hours to work before the light changes. That is why the artist may want to return to the site at the same time the next day to finish a painting. (Can you imagine a more relaxing two days?)

Tips for the best experience

Whether you sit on the ground, bring a folding chair and table, or stand at an easel, here are a few tips that can help make your excursion a “peak” experience. Remember, said Carsten, “You can paint anything.”

- Go out with a minimum of three or four colors, plus black and white.

- Bring a water to drink and a lunch if desired. (Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches pose no food spoilage danger)

- If it is cool, dress in layers so as the day warms, you are dressed accordingly.

- Bring bug spray and tuck your pants into light socks to better catch ticks.

- Wear a sunhat and sun screen. Umbrellas are used too, but wind can shake them loose.

- “Leave no footprints”. Use a bag for litter and bring it home.

Springfield's festival—Wet Paint Live

One way to enjoy plein air painting is to join a group or attend an event such as “Wet Paint Live”, which Carsten will judge on Saturday, October 10, 2015 in Springfield, VT. He urges all artists to visit www.wplvermont.com, including those who work in “dry” mediums even though the event title uses the word “wet”.

This is a first for Springfield which offers historic nineteenth century factory buildings overlooking the Black River and cascading waterfalls, named “Comtu”, which in Native American means “Great Noise”. Artists will have an accessible “Plein Air Walk” which winds along the river with views for painting.

There is no pre-jurying and all ages and skills are welcome. Cash prizes will be presented to Carsten's picks for “Best of Show, Professional”; “Best of Show, Emerging”; “People's Choice”; and “Junior”.

A nominal fee of \$15 is required with a mail-in registration form, available on the website. Spaces are limited and early registration is recommended.

Plein Air events around Vermont

There are many types of plein air events and classes. Here are a few of the opportunities.

- Plein Air Workshop with Cynthia Rosen, The Chaffee Art Center, Rutland, VT. Friday, July 5 through Sunday, July 7, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. www.chaffeeartcenter.org, (802) 775-0356.

- Last Saturday Painters with Lynn VanNatta, The Artistree, Woodstock, VT. June 27, July 25 & August 29, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. www.artistreevt.org, (802) 457-3500.

- Great Vermont Plein Air Paint Out, Waitsfield, VT. August 14-15. www.vermontartfest.com, (802) 496-6682.

- Landscape Painting “en plein air” with Daniel Gottsegen, oil and acrylic. The Artistree, Woodstock, VT. August 17-21, 9 a.m.



Robert Carsten painting en plein air in Vermont. photo by Lynette Carsten

to 12 p.m. artistreevt.org, (802) 457-3500.

- Plein Air Watercolor Workshop with Frank Francese. InView Center for the Arts, Landgrove, VT. August 17-21. www.landgroveinn.com, (800) 669-8466.

Many of these venues offer additional summer painting workshops held outdoors.

For more information about Springfield's Plein Air festival or to register visit www.wplvermont.com.

The four Vermont State Craft Centers are also a good source of information. Contact: Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St., Springfield, VT, (802) 885-7111, www.galleryvault.org; Artisan's Hand, 89 Main St., Montpelier, VT, (802) 223-4948, www.artisanshand.com; Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild, 430 Railroad St. #2, St. Johnsbury, VT, (802) 748-0158, www.nekartisansguild.com; and Frog Hollow, 85 Church St., Burlington, VT, (802) 863-6458, www.frog hollow.org.



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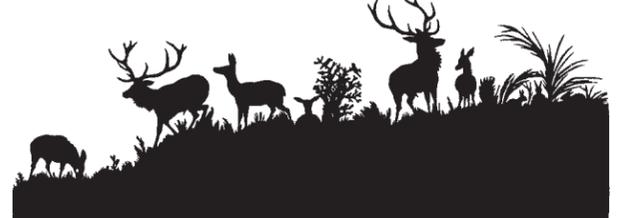
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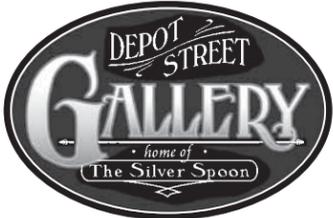
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Springfield Farmer's Market Opening for the Season

The Springfield Community Farmer's Market will be opening their 6th season May 30 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot of People's United Bank in Downtown Springfield, VT.

Returning vendors will be the Fogs of Briar Patch Farm with produce, jams and pickles, artisan breads, maple syrup; Steve and Joan Moore bringing pies and cookies; Cathy and Sara Rusch of Once Upon a Farm with salsa, baked goods, berries, and jam; Penni Thomas of Penni's Pantry with maple syrup, pickled foods, relishes, and produce; Steve and Jody Gintoff from Winterview Farm offering grass fed beef, honey and bee's wax candles.

Doug and Diane Moulton of Critter Crossing Acres will offer eggs, roasting chickens, sour cream doughnuts, single serve baked goods made with local maple syrup, quick and yeast breads, jams and relishes, fresh blueberries in season, craft items of aprons and pot holders, wooden bowls, garden trellises and more.

We welcome new vendors Anne Katz with her Katz Knits—hats, scarfs and more; John and Bonnie Keniston of Split Rock Farm with a variety of products; Elaine Martel of Woolly Bear Soaps; and Neome Lauritsen with prepared foods such as quiche.

Other new vendors who may join us occasionally are Melissa Mellow with produce, Kevin Kellow with board games, and Patricia Johansen of Pickles etc.

Scott Stearn of the Book Nook will be bringing a variety of books.

The Farmer's Market will feature a variety of music throughout the summer. The market is working on a Family Fun Corner with a variety of activities for children and families throughout the market season.

The Springfield Community Farmer's Market is an initiative of Springfield on the Move.

For more information about the market or vendor inquiries call (802) 885-1527.



Deer fawns and moose calves, like this one, photographed in Sheffield, VT, may seem to be abandoned. Their mothers are likely feeding nearby. Vermont Fish & Wildlife reminds us to enjoy watching them from a distance, but don't pick them up.

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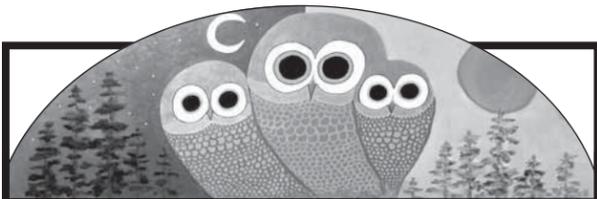
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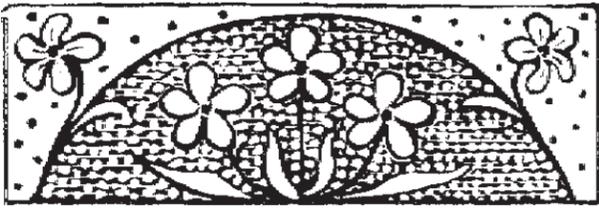
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Summer Phenology

by Bill Felker

When the first monarch butterfly arrives from the Gulf, then young coyotes come after chickens and new lambs.

When May apples have fruit the size of a cherry and honeysuckle flowers have all come down, cucumber beetles reach the economic threshold on the farm.

When fireflies light up the night, chinch bugs hatch in the lawn, and powdery mildew becomes a problem in the garden phlox.

When yucca plants send up their stalks, young grackles have left their nests, and nettles have grown up to your chest. Then, Japanese beetles start to attack roses and ferns. Azalea bark scale eggs hatch, too.

When pie cherries ripen, painted turtles and box turtles lay their eggs, and giant (but harmless) stag beetles prowl the grass.

When the oakleaf hydrangea produces its first blooms, then fall webworms and mimosa webworm eggs are hatching.

When the first chiggers bite, all the soybeans are in the ground (except in the wettest years).

When daylilies bloom by the roadsides, watch for winter wheat to turn a soft, pale green.

When catalpa trees come into bloom, then look for the first raspberries to redden.

When bud clusters form on the milkweeds and hosta, then oaks, Osage orange and black walnut trees have set their fruit, and cherry picking is in full swing.

When black-eyed Susans flower across the northern states, then the wheat harvest is over in the Gulf region.

When long seedpods have formed on the locust trees, then annual cicadas start to chant.

When you see the first black walnuts on the ground, then you know that this year's ducklings and goslings are nearly full grown.

When great mullein blooms in the fields, then mock orange petals have all fallen and water willows are blossoming beside the streams.

When elderberry bushes come into full flower and cottonwood cotton floats in the wind, then the first chiggers bite in the woods and garden.

When acorns form, then almost all the winter wheat is headed.

When the tall spikes of the yucca are in bloom, then Japanese beetles will be invading the flowers.

When damselflies are out along the waterways, cherries



A thoughtful Jersey pauses for a photo in Central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

will be ripe for pie, and the second cut of alfalfa will be underway.

When milkweed and pokeweed flower, then the first winter wheat will be ripe.

When quail whistle and mate in the woods, tent caterpillars emerge in the trees, and the first Canadian thistles go to seed.

When lizard's tail is in flower along the rivers and lakes, and when black raspberry season ends along the roadsides, then corn borers haunt the corn.

When enchanter's nightshade blooms in the woods, then the first soybeans are blossoming, too.

When black-eyed Susans bloom along the freeways, then turtles are hatching near the rivers and lakes.

When blackberries are setting fruit, then the earliest field corn will start to tassel and the canola harvest will be underway.

When the first annual cicadas sing, then May apples will be ready for May-apple jam.

When the first katydid appears at porch lights, then the first cut of alfalfa is complete and the wheat is ready to cut.

When touch-me-nots bloom in the woods, then the best bullhead and crappie fishing ends for the year.

When blueberries ripen, then cottony maple scale eggs hatch on the silver maples.

When long seedpods have formed on the locust trees, then chinch bugs start leaving brown patches in the lawn.

When the first apple and cherry tree leaves become yellow and drift to the ground, alewives head back to sea from their estuaries along the Atlantic.

When road kills increase in Dog Day heat, thunderstorms announce middle summer.

When teasel flowers along the roadsides and wood nettle blooms in the woods, then bagworms attack arborvitae, euonymus, juniper, linden, maple, and fir. Root diseases stalk the soybeans, and the wheat still standing in the fields may suffer from rust, powdery mildew, and head scab.

When elderberry flowers turn to fruit, then giant green June beetles appear in the garden and poisonous white snakeroot is budding in the woods. That's the time to dig garlic before the heads break apart, time also to put in autumn turnips.

When timothy is bearded with seeds, then the first rough-winged swallows migrate south.

When the rose of Sharon flowers, the summer apple harvest will soon be starting.

When the roadside grasses turn like the winter wheat, local sweet corn appears in the market.

When the first fourth of the oats crop is ripe, then spring's goslings and ducklings are almost all grown up.

The Grand Phenology

Robins begin their pre-dawn morning chant just as Cepheus lies due south of the North Star; when Delphinus, the Dolphin, passes overhead between Pegasus and Lyra; when the Pleiades show on the eastern horizon (Venus trailing behind in Taurus); and when Sagittarius follows Scorpio and Saturn into the far west.

The coincidence of these stellar and planetary positions before sunrise with the state of the landscape and weather is easily related through natural history to the blossoms of the star of Bethlehem and columbine and clustered snakeroot.

In addition, such coincidence might give rise to speculation that the arrival of hummingbirds or hatching of red admirals or emergence of praying mantises had something to do with the configuration of the sky before dawn.

After all, Chaos Theory posits, among other things, the possibility that the flap-

ping of a butterfly's wings in Vermont might be causally related to a hurricane in the Caribbean. Edward Lorenz, a physicist who named the Butterfly Effect, noted that "if the theory were correct, one flap of a sea gull's wings would be enough to alter the course of the weather forever." If the forces of Earth might be so connected, why not flowering rhododendrons with Cepheus, peonies with Delphinus, meadow goat's beard with Pegasus, wild daisies with Lyra, clover with the Pleiades?

Once sensitive dependence is applied to events across the Cosmos, then the mind is free to make connections as it wills. According to physicist Werner Heisenberg, "A path comes into existence only when it is observed." The paths and the observations of the paths are beyond number. They flow to a theory of everything: The Grand Phenology.

—W.L. Felker

"When the first monarch butterfly arrives from the Gulf, then young coyotes come after chickens..."

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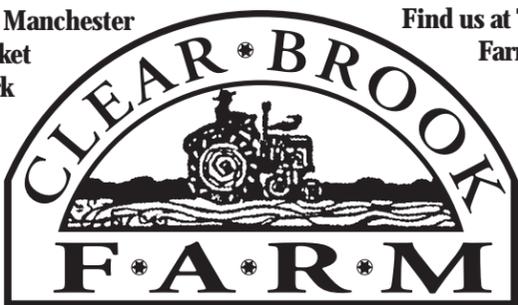


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A Vermont Almanack for Early Summer

by Bill Felker

Now come the rosy June and blue-eyed Hours,
With song of birds, and stir of leaves and wings...

—Webbe

Phases of the Hummingbird Moon and the Firefly Moon

Hummingbirds have arrived at almost every feeder in the United States, and now fireflies grow brighter wherever moisture and habitat are favorable. *June 2:* The Hummingbird Moon is full at 11:19 a.m. *June 9:* The moon enters its final quarter at 10:42 a.m. *June 10:* Perigee (the moon's position closest to Earth). *June 16:* The Firefly Moon is new at 9:05 a.m. *June 23:* Apogee (the moon's position farthest from Earth). *June 24:* The moon enters its second quarter at 6:03 a.m.

The Sun

June brings the year's high tide, the sun's declination remaining within two degrees of solstice all month. The exact midpoint of the solar year, the day on which the sun reaches as high in the sky as it will ever go, occurs on June 21 at 11:38 p.m. The sun holds steady at its solstice declination of 23 degrees 26 minutes (and the day's length remains virtually unchanged) between June 19 and 23. All across the United States, the night is as short as it will ever be.

The Stars

The Big Dipper has started to rotate to the west, marking the time that chiggers and Japanese beetles appear in Vermont. In the east, the Summer Triangle is rising, bringing all the lilies into bloom. To the right of the North Star, the house-shaped constellation of Cepheus spins slowly around to the center of the southern sky; when it is almost overhead, gardens will be full of bright mums.

The Planets

Venus moves retrograde into Cancer this month, remaining the brightest evening star. Jupiter retreats into Leo, continuing to stalk Venus, complementing Leo's bright Regulus in the far west after sundown. Saturn moves into Libra his month, rising after sundown and travelling all across the southern horizon through the night, visible in the southwest several hours before dawn. Mars not visible this month.

Robin in the Berry-Patch

He scolds me, as if it were
His berries I took, I dare not look,
So furiously does he "jaw." I saw
Berries in need of harvest—so did he—
And all he sought was just to be
Partly rewarded for picking off the bugs,
Catching the beetle, killing the slugs
That would hurt my crop. He does not stop
Picking or scolding. He poses a question:
"Whose is this fruit?" It may well suit
Me to call it mine—to me it may belong—
But the robin knows he paid for it with song.



—J. RICHARD BARRY



A horse and carriage driving into Danby, VT on (old) Rt. 7 just north of Quarry Hill Rd., circa 1912. photo courtesy of John Griffith



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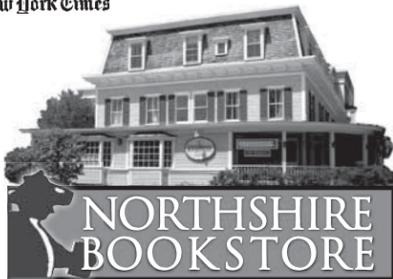


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Springtime Edible Delights

Spring is well underway and summer will be upon us in a few weeks. We're all waiting for strawberries—will they be early or late? In any case, they'll be delicious. If you can pick-your-own, or if you're feeling rich, plan to have lots of them! In the meantime, feast on all the other wonderful edibles that spring brings.

Mother's Strawberry Shortcake

I believe your household will agree with me in thinking Puck never ate any strawberry shortcake. We may be ancient, but don't we remember, as well as if it was but yesterday, the dear, delightful ones made by mother in our childhood. And don't we know just how they were made, too; we heard her tell so many times, as every one wanted her recipe.

She made them as follows: sour cream, 1 cup; cream of tartar, 1 teaspoonful; soda, 1/2 teaspoonful; with flour to make a suitable dough to roll 1/2 an inch thick. Baked nicely, split open and spread each piece with the sweetest, freshest butter. Then pour on to one of the halves, not 6 or 7 gritty, mussy berries, but 2 whole cups of those large, luscious ones from the south side of the garden. Put on the other half for a cover, and pour over sweetened cream when eaten.

This is about as my own mother used to make it, so I know it will prove a good and worthy receipt to be followed by all who have the nice "sour cream" But good rich milk with soda—no cream of tartar—will also do very nicely. Of course, any berries, fresh or canned, may take the place of strawberries when they are not plenty.

—Aunt Lulu, Red Willow, Nebraska, 1884

Rhubarb Trifle

Cook soft two cupfuls of rhubarb, scraped and cut into inch lengths, using barely enough water to keep it from scorching. Soak a half-ounce of gelatine, and when ready for use strain into it the rhubarb rubbed through a sieve; add six or eight ounces of sugar and a cupful of cream; stir over the fire until well heated through, but do not let it boil, and pour into a wet mold. Set on ice. Serve with whipped cream.

—Marion Harland, 1903

Mint Sandwiches

Pulverize one tablespoonful of mint leaves; pour over them two tablespoonfuls of boiling water. Let it stand for about a half an hour. Soak half an ounce of gelatine in one tablespoonful of water. Dissolve it over hot water. Strain the mint into the gelatine and when cool add a pint of rich whipped cream and a pinch of salt. Let this stand in a mold until perfectly cold and firm. Slice in thin slices and put between dainty slices of bread.

—Marion Harland, 1903



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Visitors wind their way through the fields on a horse-drawn wagon ride at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT. Billings Farm photo

Strawberry Time

Strawberry time—and my grandma isn't here,
But I can hear her plainly, "Go on, child dear,
Down to Martin's fallow and pick a bowl or two
To eat with cream and sugar. Do, child, do."
And I would take the largest bowl and pick,
As fast as fast,
To get it full for Grandma, and at the very last
I'd pile the top with bunches of berries dark and red,
I couldn't seem to leave them, although she'd smiled
And said to snatch them off as quickly,
As quickly as could be—
"So we can have a little feast—just for you and me."
I'd soon be running home again, and she would laugh
And say, "Smart girl," and stroke my hair—
You know a grandma's way.

But once when we were eating them old Harriet went by,
And peeked in at the window, and I knew by her eye
That she'd be telling Mother and stirring up a fuss
The way she always did, and loved to do, about us.
And she did!
Then Mother scolded poor Grandma and me,
For she needed all that cream. We were so poor, you see.
But Grandma took it nicely, and braided up my hair,
And rocked me off to sleep in the red rocking-chair.

It's strawberry time, and the loveliest of the year,
But to me it's always lonely since Grandma isn't here,
But I think of her a lot and very often dream
Of when I picked the berries
And Grandma stole the cream.

—NELLIE S. RICHARDSON
Springfield, VT 1941

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Billings Farm to Produce 100% Raw Milk Cheddar Cheese

For the first time in over 70 years, Billings Farm in Woodstock, VT—one of the oldest continuously-operating Jersey dairy farms in the country—will market a Billings dairy product made exclusively from the milk of its prize-winning Jersey cows. Billings Farm Cheddar Cheese debuted at Billings Farm's Cheese & Dairy Celebration on May 23-24.

Drawing upon Billings Farm's 144-year tradition of dairy excellence, two varieties of high-quality, handmade cheddar cheese—sweet cheddar and butter cheddar—are being made from 100% raw milk from the Billings herd of over 40 pure-bred, registered Jersey cows. Billings Farm Cheddar, made at Grafton Village Cheese in Grafton, Vermont, is carefully aged for at least 60 days, with no additives, preservatives, or artificial coloring.

Billings Farm Sweet Cheddar boasts a sweet, full-cream flavor. Sweet cheddar is especially popular in the United Kingdom for its firm, yet creamy texture, with a pleasant savory taste. Billings Farm Butter Cheddar, also known as Butterkäse, is mild and creamy with a slightly salty or acidic flavor reminiscent of Muenster or Gouda cheeses. Known for its delicate flavor, it literally melts in your mouth at room temperature, good on the cheese tray and for cooking.

Billings Farm Cheddar will bear the coveted "Queen of Quality" label, which certifies that it is a highly nutritional, premium product made from 100% Jersey milk. Billings Farm is one of only 32 dairy farms nation-wide (nine in New England) that qualify for the "Queen of Quality" distinction issued by the American Jersey Cattle Association.

Billings Cheddar is a high-quality artisanal product, produced in limited amounts and available at the Billings Farm & Museum, the Woodstock Inn, and other select points of sale.

It also will serve as a link in the unbroken chain which began in 1871, when Frederick Billings transformed a worn-out hillside in Woodstock into one of America's premier Jersey dairy farms.

Billings Farm Dairy History

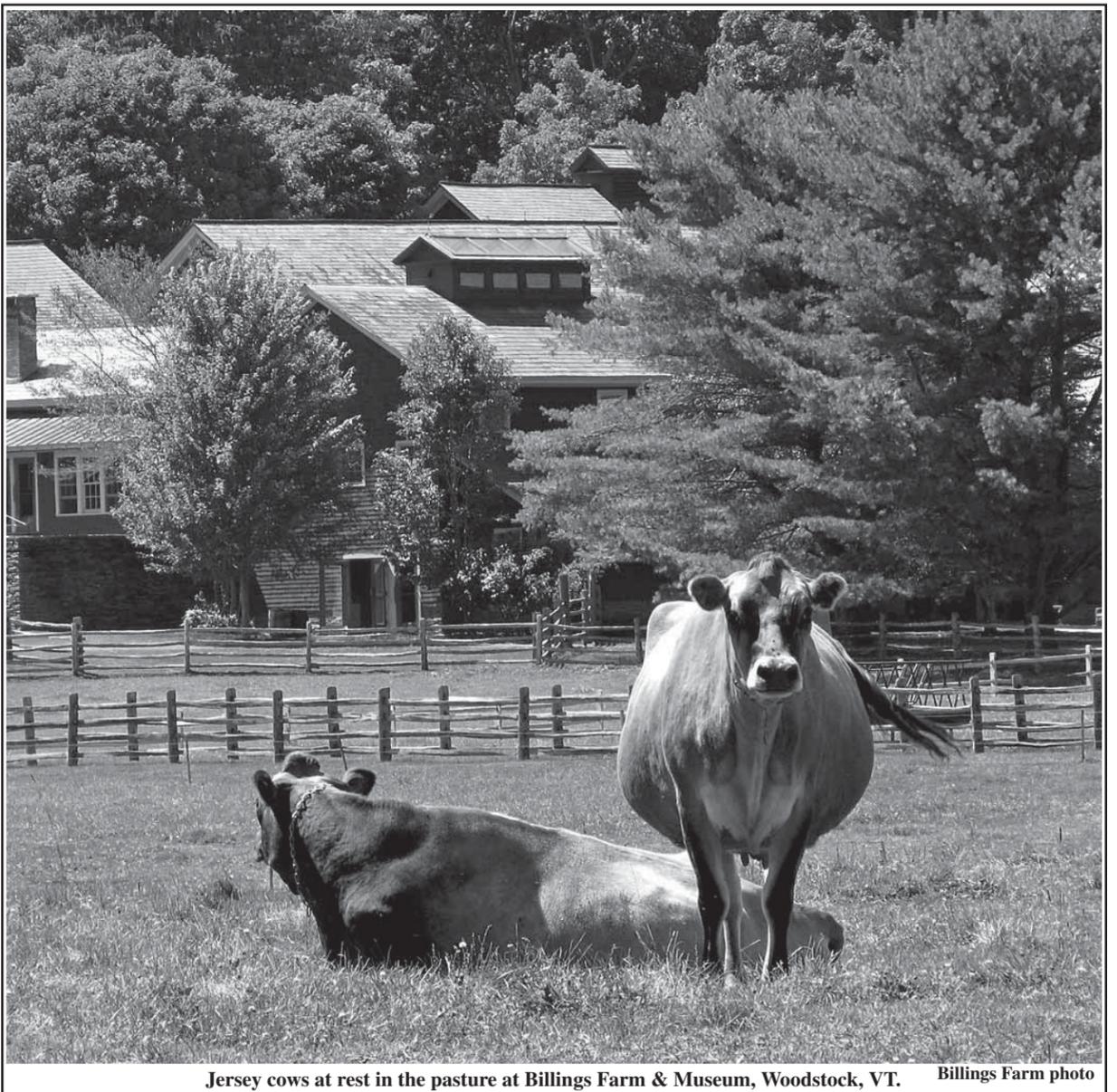
In 1871, Frederick Billings established his farm and purebred Jersey herd as a showcase for his ideas of how Vermont might address its environmental and economic challenges, thereby regaining both its prosperity and its natural beauty. Billings replanted hundreds of acres of forest on the scarred hillside above his home and established a farm in the valley below. On the farm and in the forest, he introduced scientific methods and livestock breeds successfully developed in other places, particularly Europe.

Recognizing the decline of sheep farming and mixed agriculture in Vermont, Billings adopted the emerging enterprise of commercial dairying as both an economic and environmental solution to the problems facing Vermont farms. He imported purebred Jersey cattle from the Channel Island of Jersey because he believed this breed was particularly well suited to Vermont's environment and its production characteristics would produce a marketable dairy product.

Vermont's first purebred Jersey herd

Frederick Billings developed the first purebred Jersey herd in Vermont. By the early 20th century however, Jersey cows—many of them descended from the Billings' herd—had become the dominant dairy breed in the Green Mountain State. Jersey cows are noted for their compact stature, steady disposition, and the high quality and quantity of butterfat and protein in their milk. This breed is exceptionally efficient converting feed and water into cream-rich milk—particularly well suited for producing butter and cheese.

Billings hired an accomplished farm manager, a Scot named George Aitken, and set about to improve and develop his farm and forest, which would eventually expand to 2,000 acres. Aitken applied scientific knowledge, progressive methods, and technology to the breeding of fine Jersey cattle and the production of premium butter, which the farm shipped to coastal New England markets by rail.



Jersey cows at rest in the pasture at Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, VT. Billings Farm photo

By 1890, the year of Frederick Billings' death, Aitken had earned a preeminent reputation for the Billings Farm—among agriculturists throughout Vermont and beyond. Aitken, his wife, and four daughters lived in the fine Victorian residence that Billings had built for him, which also housed the farm office and a state-of-the-art creamery.

Billings Farm achieved national fame just a few years later, when 21 Billings Jerseys won top prizes at the 1893-94 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, confirming that the Billings Farm was demonstrably the best Jersey dairy farm in America.

Billings Jerseys herd still a prize-winning herd

Today, over 120 years later, Billings Farm again stands at the pinnacle of the Jersey world. With its modest-size herd of purebred Jerseys (comparable to the number in Billings' and Aitken's day), Billings Farm is acknowledged to be among the finest Jersey dairy farms in North America, winning awards, including multiple National Grand Championships.

The herd is renowned for its highly-classified cows and the quality and purity of its milk. Billings Farm accomplishes this as an educational farm, which operates as part of the Billings Farm & Museum, the only outdoor history museum in America that features a fully-operating modern dairy farm, in view of over 55,000 visitors annually.

As a breeder of fine Jersey cows, Billings Farm is preeminent, producing top-quality heifers, bulls, and embryos. Cattle from Billings' bloodlines are sold in the United States, Canada, Australia, and South America, helping to improve the quality of dairy livestock.

The farm's milk commands premium prices for its high butterfat and protein content, as well as its low somatic cell count, an indicator of milk quality. Too valuable for the fluid milk market, most Billings Farm milk is made into high-quality cheese.

Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues 144-year tradition of agricultural excellence. Billings Farm & Museum has served as a gateway to Vermont's rural heritage.

Billings Farm & Museum is open daily May 1 through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends Nov. – Feb., and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The operating dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and the restored and furnished farmhouse are included in the entrance fee. Admission: adults \$14; 62 & over \$13; children 5-15 \$8; 3-4 \$4; 2 & under, free.

The Farm & Museum is located one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on VT Rt. 12. For information call (802) 457-2355. Visit www.billingsfarm.org.



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Billings Farm Cheddar Cheeses, Woodstock, VT. Billings Farm photo



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Vermont Strawberry Festivals and Suppers

Saturday, June 13th—North Clarendon, VT. Strawberry Festival. Menu: ham, coleslaw, potato salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, beverages, strawberry shortcake or strawberries & ice cream. Adults \$10, children (6-12) \$5, 5 & under free. Dessert only, \$5. 4-7 pm. The Brick Church (Clarendon Congregational Church), 298 Middle Rd. (802) 773-3873. www.brickchurchvt.com.

Saturday, June 20—Colchester, VT. Sam Mazza's 19th Annual Strawberry Festival. Fresh-picked strawberry shortcake with whipped cream. Strawberry milkshakes, strawberry fudge, strawberry jam & chocolate-dipped strawberries. Pony rides, kids games, petting zoo, face painting & Vermont specialty food samples. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sam Mazza's, 277 Lavigne Rd. (802) 655-3440. www.sammazzafarms.com.

Saturday, June 20th—Guilford, VT. Annual Guilford Community Church Strawberry Supper. Ham and homemade baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, deviled eggs, homemade rolls, beverages, and strawberry shortcake with real whipped cream. Seatings at 5 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$11 adults, \$5 children under 11, preschool \$3. At the Guilford Community Church, 38 Church Dr. off Bee Barn Rd. Directions: I-91 Exit 1; go south on Rt. 5; turn left onto Bee Barn Rd., just past Guilford County Store and before the bridge. (802) 254-9019. guilfordchurchsupper@gmail.com.

Saturday, June 20th—Hartford, VT. Strawberry Supper. Menu: baked ham, baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, cole slaw, sweet breads, and strawberries in a shortcake, sundae or plain, for dessert. Served family style. Handicapped accessible. Adults: \$12, children (6-12) \$4. 5 & 6 p.m. Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, Route 14. (802) 295-2510.

Sunday, June 21st—Middletown Springs, VT. 39th Annual Strawberry Festival. To benefit the Middletown Springs Historical Society. Museum exhibits and live music by Paul Morgan and Friends. Local crafts and artists. Raffle. Quarts of strawberries for sale. Museum will be open. Strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, ice cream, and whipped cream for \$6 per person. Coffee, ice tea, and lemonade are included. 2-4 p.m. on the Green, Rt. 140. (802) 235-2376.

Monday, June 22nd—Vergennes, VT. 39th Annual Strawberry Festival. Strawberry shortcake with homemade pound cake, strawberries and ice cream, and beverages for \$5. Vergennes City Band will be playing 6-8 p.m. in the Vergennes City Park. (802) 759-3218.

Sunday, June 25th—Shoreham, VT. Annual Strawberry Festival. Strawberry shortcake, strawberry pies, strawberry sundaes, just plain strawberries, and more! Prices



The Middletown Springs Historical Society hosts their 39th Annual Strawberry Festival on the Green in Middletown Springs, VT on June 21. The Historical Society Museum is open for the event.

\$2-\$7. A limited number of whole strawberry pies may be available as well. 5-7 pm. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-2687.

Friday, June 26th—Waterbury, VT. 42nd Annual Strawberry Supper. Delicious buffet dinner at historic downtown church followed by strawberry shortcake (made with local strawberries). Full meal includes drink & dessert, or you can get "just desserts." Take-out too! \$12 adults, 12 and under \$8, families \$30, dessert only \$4. Handicap accessible. 5-7 p.m. Waterbury Congregational Church, 8 N. Main St. (802) 244-6606.

Saturday, June 27th—Dummerston Center, VT. Annual Old-Fashioned Strawberry Supper. Ham and baked beans, potato salad, tuna-macaroni salad, coleslaw, homemade sweetbreads, beverages, and "all you can eat" old-fashioned whole strawberry shortcakes with real whipped cream and locally grown berries! Adults \$10, children 6 and under \$5. Sponsored by the Dummerston Congregational Church. Held at Evening Star Grange Hall, 1008 East West Rd. 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. (802) 257-0544 or (802) 257-1128.

Saturday, June 27th—Manchester Center, VT. Annual Ham and Strawberry Supper. Baked pit hams with delicious special sauce and homemade baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, broccoli salad, homemade rolls, and beverages. Freshly-picked strawberries on homemade biscuits with real whipped cream. Served family-style. Handicap accessible. Reservations recommended. Adults \$12, children 8 and under \$5. One seating at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, Rts. 7A & 30. For reservations call (802) 362-3473.

Saturday, June 27th—North Pomfret, VT. Annual Strawberry Supper. Baked ham and baked beans, potato salad, tossed salad, deviled eggs, rolls, coffee, punch, strawberry shortcake & whipped cream. Ladies Circle Bazaar and quilt raffle tickets. Supper benefits the North Pomfret Congregational Church. Seatings at 5, 6:15 & 7:30 at the

Pomfret Town Hall. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 10. Call for reservations! (802) 457-1014.

Saturday, June 27th—Wells, VT. Second Annual Pick-Your-Own Little Lake Orchard Strawberry Festival. Organic strawberries, music by The Wiyos Band, strawberry shortcake, strawberry lemonade, and salads by Valley Roots Catering. 12-4 p.m. at Little Lake Orchard, North St. Rain date 6/23. (802) 417-7946.

Sunday, June 28th—East Thetford, VT. 13th Annual Strawberry Festival. Organic strawberry picking, kids' activities, horse-drawn wagon rides, and an organic Good Food Concession with strawberry delights. Hawk Mountain with Samantha Moffatt will play from 1-4 p.m. Green event—bring a plate, utensils and cup to help reduce waste. The farmstand and coffee shop are also open. Raffle. Parking \$10 per car. Free admission by bike or on foot. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Cedar Circle Farm, Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. www.cedarcirclefarm.org.

Castleton Town-Wide Yard Sale Coming up on June 27

The 8th Annual Castleton Town Wide Yard Sale will be held Saturday June 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine. There will be over 50 vendors outdoors and indoors at the Castleton Community Center, on Main St. in Castleton, VT.

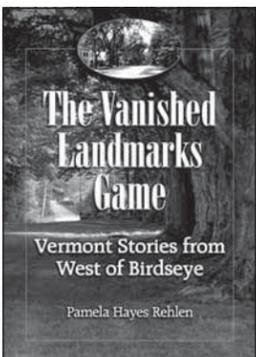
This is a great chance to find bargains, treasures, and one-of-a-kind items to fit everyone's pocketbook. "Drive-around Maps" will also be available at the Community Center for various at-home yard sales held in the area on the same day.

The Castleton Community Center is located at 2108 Main St. in Castleton, VT. For more information call (802) 468-3093.



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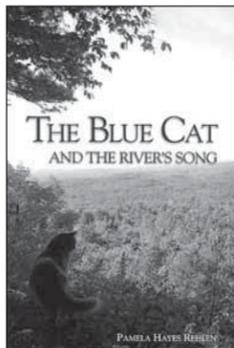
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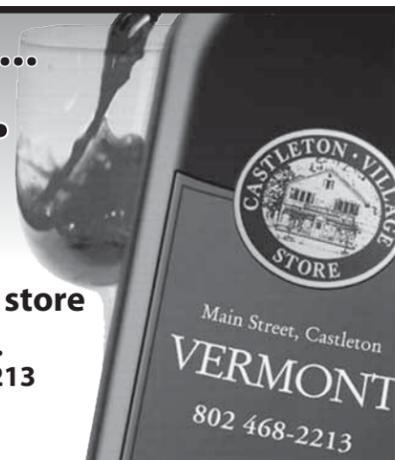
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Vermont

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But would mean to have you know it last of all.
His words, like maple, are very close in grain
Unflowered things when speaking of your pain,
But heart-held. The things he cannot bring
Himself to say, as being soft, he keeps within.
We notice, with a knowing nod,
The way he turned his head
So we might hear so clearly the kindness left unsaid.



—J. RICHARD BARRY



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Going to Law in the Spring by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

Spring, with its tender flowers, pink-cloud crab apple trees, bright mornings, and long, warm, afternoon sun, always brings back to me memories of my brief, long-ago, practice of law.

I had an internship at a practice in Castleton while I studied to take the Vermont bar, and I'd been given a tiny office upstairs in the Hat and Cap Shop, technically the Buel Block, the ancient brick building in the center of Castleton which for many years was used as a town hall.

This minute work space was at the top of a dark, twisty, low-ceilinged, staircase right out of Dickens. The room was filled with unsympathetic, wood-grained-plastic, attorney-style furniture, and I sat behind an oversized executive desk worrying about sounds in the hall beyond my closed door which could indicate the arrival of a client with a legal difficulty far beyond my fledgling abilities to solve.

On the floor below me, at the foot of the 19th century staircase—in a securely locked glass box—hung former police Chief George Travis's .357 Magnum Smith and Wesson handgun. Everyone who worked in the town hall, and everyone who came in on business, liked looking at that gun; it contributed a lot to the general office bonhomie, and I wonder—now that the Buel Block has been abandoned—where it is today.

I returned to Castleton from Rhode Island—my husband was still in oceanography graduate school at URI. My Fair Haven grandmother had died the previous fall, and no one in the family wanted her not-very-special house, so from the time when she went to Sagers Nursing Home it was closed up and available. I was able to stay there while my husband and I waited to get our mortgage financing and move into The Manse.

But my grandmother's house wasn't comfortable that cold, rainy spring, which like this year's was slow to arrive. The place was sad, and I left it each morning in low spirits.

Once in Castleton, I had to run the gauntlet of Bob McClure, the town manager who didn't much like attorney—certainly not that brand-new phenomenon, young women attorneys—and town clerk Alice Coryell.

I was supposed to do legal research, but I was also given a lot of flotsam and jetsam stuff that the two other lawyers didn't want to bother with, maybe things they thought a woman would handle with more sensitivity.

Once a week, I drove down to Poultney to a satellite office, and I remember advising the wife of a local farmer about a worker who she worried had begun—probably out of loneliness—following children on his bike.

Later, I represented a client in an informal bankruptcy hearing in Rutland. I arbitrated a Middletown Springs milk trucking dispute. I started the complicated process of deeding a parcel of West Castleton land to the Catholic Diocese of Burlington.

But what I did most during that cold rainy spring was deal with sad elderly people like 'Old Ed' Ellis, Miss Woolridge, and a woman in her nineties who lived in Fair Haven.

These weren't really legal situations. Probably what was called for was geriatric counseling—something that I don't think much existed at that time.

'Old Ed' Ellis came into my office when he was in his nineties. He'd been town father all of his life, but he'd reached the point where as a force he was no longer much regarded.

I saw right off that there was nothing I could do for him



The Buel Block, an antique brick building formerly housing the town hall, in the center of Castleton, VT. photo by Wenger Rehlen

because he'd come to the law to try to get back some of the power that old age inevitably strips away.

Miss Woolridge, the last of the Woolridges, tottered down Elm Street from her beautiful, gracefully-maintained home behind the CSC Fine Arts Center to ask about preserving her property. She planned to give it to the college, but I knew that if she did there was no way to guarantee that the school would maintain it as she envisioned.

Today, when I walk on the rail trail past her obliterated gardens and hard-used old house—for a number of years the home of Apple Tree Day Care Center—I think of her coming to see me in her high-heeled court shoes and silk afternoon dress.

Lastly, I remember being sent over to Fair Haven to see an elderly woman who insisted that she and I go out to talk in low tones on the

front porch. She felt alone and vulnerable. I kept thinking of my grandmother and was fierce in wanting to help her. I didn't recognize, at that time in my life, the paranoia common in old age.

Today, when I drive by, I recall the two of us, my briefcase leaned up against our chairs, whispering together out on the porch.

I remember them all, the old Vermonters who 'came to law,' and wound up seeing me that long-ago spring during my brief legal career in Castleton.

*Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton, VT. She is the author of many stories, articles, essays and magazine features and of two books, **The Blue Cat and the River's Song** (\$17 plus \$5 shipping and handling) and **The Vanished Landmarks Game—Vermont Stories from West of Birdseye** (\$20 plus \$5 shipping and handling), available at the Castleton Village Store, P. O. Box 275, Castleton, VT 05735, (802) 468-2213, and at a number of Vermont bookstores.*

"He'd come to the law to try to get back some of the power that old age inevitably strips away."



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A Tinker's Spring

Sometimes, mid-spring, my father'd find some wandering tinker on the road and having wagon room beside his load he'd let him ride to ease his feet a while.

He'd learn the tinker's winter had been rough. No one had sought him out to fix a lock or use his skills upon a mantel clock or phonograph that might be out of kilter.

Invariably he'd get a home-cooked meal. One could watch him take apart and clean most anything at all with kerosene and a special trimmed and treated chicken feather.

—WILLIAM MUNDELL

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Vermont Country Calendar

See the end of the daily event calendar for ongoing activities; community meals; late spring farmers markets; museums, exhibits, and galleries; community dances and music; horseback riding and wagon rides, and recreation and nature centers.

DAILY EVENTS

SATURDAY, MAY 23

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Admission \$5, children 14 and under are free. Open 9:30 am - 5 pm, Wed. - Sun. and Monday Holidays. 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/chimneypoint. May 23 through October 12.

BENNINGTON. Mayfest Arts and Crafts Festival. Arts, crafts, activities, food and entertainment in downtown Bennington. From 10 am on. (802) 442-5758. www.betterbennington.com.

BROOKFIELD. Floating Bridge Celebration. A two-day celebration of the newly rebuilt floating bridge across Sunset Lake. www.brookfieldvt.org. Also May 24.

FAIR HAVEN. Spring Fling. Farmers market, food & festivities, crafters and flea market, regional all-day yard sales. 9 am - 3 pm. (802) 468-5141, (802) 265-8600. vtlakesregionchamber.org.

HARDWICK. Memorial Day Parade and Spring Festival. All day festivities and fireworks at dusk. (802) 472-5906.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Bring your flag to be raised over the Hubbardton Battlefield and receive a certificate. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under are free. Open 9:30 am - 5 pm. Thurs. - Sun., and Monday holidays. 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/hubbardton. May 23 to October 12.

KILLINGTON. Annual Stage Race. Cyclists from across the U.S., Canada, and international racers travel to Killington to participate in the Killington Stage Race. Starts 8 am. killingtonstagerace.com. Through May 25.

LUDLOW. 3rd Annual SoVermont Home, Garden & Recreation Show. Free admission. 10 am - 3 pm. Ludlow Community Center Gym. (802) 228-5830. www.yourplaceinvermont.com.

NORWICH. Contradance. Music by Cuckoo's Nest, caller Ruth Sylvester. Please bring a pair of clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing. Admission \$5, under 16 free. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. 8 pm. At Tracey Hall, 300 Main St. For information call (802) 785-4607. *Fourth Saturdays*.

ORWELL. Early Bird Nature Walk. Sue Wetmore introduces you to the birds of spring and spring migration. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Meet in front of the Museum. Co-sponsored by Mount Independence Coalition. 8-10:30 am. \$5 adults, free for children under 15. Open daily, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/MountIndependence. May 23 through October 12.

PLYMOUTH NOTCH. Opening Day of President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Adults \$9, children 6 to 14 \$2, under 6 free. Family pass \$25. 9:30 am - 5 pm daily. 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov. May 23 through October 12.

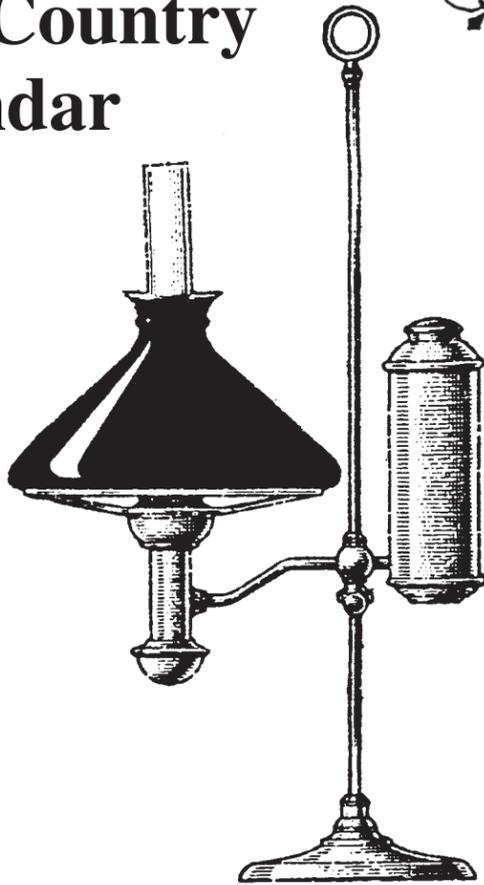
PROCTOR. Grand Opening of the Vermont Marble Museum. Celebration around town and on the green. Hot dogs, pizza, bread dough, chicken wings, and beverages for sale. Passenger trains from Rutland at 8:30 am, 11:30 & 2:30 pm. Proctor H.S. Jazz Band at the gazebo at 12 pm. View the Tiffany windows at Union Church open house. Book sale at Proctor Free Library. Many more activities. 9 am - 6 pm. Vermont Marble Museum, 52 Main St. (802) 459-2750. www.vermont-marble.com.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. 10 am - 2 pm. At Depot Park. (802) 753-7269. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 24.

STATEWIDE. Spring Open Studio Tour Weekend. Artists throughout Vermont open their studios to visitors. 9 am - 5 pm. Look for the yellow signs or get a map from the Vermont Craft Council. www.vermontcrafts.com. Also May 24

THETFORD. Annual Open Fields Medieval Festival. A King and Queen, knights and ladies, peasants, craftsmen, and farmers gather to celebrate the age via live music, dance, kids' activities, hands-on crafts, an artists' market with demonstrations, storytelling, Benny the Dragon, and feats of juggling and acrobatics. No Strings Marionette Company performs *Wasabi, a Dragon's Tale*. Lunch and desserts are available. Admission \$7 per person, 4 and under are free. Free parking. 11 am - 4 pm. Open Fields School, on the green. (802) 785-2077. www.vtmedfest.com.

VERGENNES. Underwater Historic Preserves Opening Day. Five shipwrecks in Lake Champlain are marked and open for scuba divers. Coast Guard-approved yellow buoys identify the Preserves. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. (802) 475-2022. www.lcmm.org. May 23 through October 12.



VERNON. Spring Hike at Black Gum Swamp. See a rare stand of Tupelos that survived the Ice Age. An easy three miles with moderate hills. Sponsored by the Ottauquechee Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. Contact leader: Dick Andrews at (802) 885-3201. www.greenmountainclub.org.

WEST DOVER. 2nd Annual Mount Snow Valley Fiddlehead Festival. Live music, craft fair, bouncy house, and children's activities. Featuring a phenomenal line up of regional Bluegrass bands: Gang of Thieves, Blind Owl Band, Brummy Brothers and Jatoba under the tent at the Dover Forge. Tickets: \$10 single, \$15 couple or \$20 family. (802) 464-8092. vermontfiddleheadfestival.com. Also May 24.

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House Opening Day. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under are free. Open Saturdays and Sundays and Monday holidays from 11 am - 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 N. Main St. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov.

WOODSTOCK. Working Woodlands Workshop: Forestry for the Birds. Guided walking tour of bird-friendly forestry work. Bring binoculars if you have them and see and hear the changes good forest management can make. Easy, three miles. Free. 8:30-11 am. Co-sponsored by Vermont Coverts and Vermont Woodlands Association. Meet at the Prosper Road trailhead, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller. (802) 457-3368 ext. 22. tbarneyvt@mac.com. www.vtcoverts.org.

WOODSTOCK. Sixth Annual Cheese and Dairy Celebration. Meet New England cheesemakers, sample their delicious artisan cheeses & dairy products, and take part in engaging dairy education programs. Especially for the children: cranking fresh ice cream and making dairy headbands and moo masks. Admission (includes all programs and activities): adults \$14, 62 & over \$13, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, 2 & under free. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org. Also May 24.

SUNDAY, MAY 24

BARTON. Memorial Day Celebration. Day-long festivities for the whole family. Horse and pony pulls, food vendors, lots more. Orleans County Fairgrounds. 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 371-8426.

STATEWIDE. Spring Open Studio Tour Weekend. Artists and crafts throughout Vermont open their studios to visitors. 9 am - 5 pm each day. Look for the yellow signs or get a map from the Vermont Craft Council. www.vermontcrafts.com.

WARDSBORO. "From Our Gardens to Yours" Plant Sale. Annuals, perennials, shrubs, vegetable seedlings, including our famous heirloom Gilfeather Turnips. Bake sale. Same day raffle of interesting and practical garden items. Rain or shine. Free admission. 9 am - 2 pm. On the library lawn at 170 Main St., and on the Town Common. (802) 896-3416. www.friendsofwardsborolib.org.

WILMINGTON. 2nd Annual Mount Snow Valley Fiddlehead Festival. The annual Make a Wish Duck Race kicks off in the morning. Artists on the Lawn at the Crafts Inn. Fiddlehead Block Party on South Main Street. Live music, vendors and our favorite new competition to compete and eat at the Salsa Competition. (802) 464-8092. vermontfiddleheadfestival.com.

WOODSTOCK. Sixth Annual Cheese and Dairy Celebration. Meet New England cheesemakers, sample their delicious artisan cheeses & dairy products, and take part in engaging dairy education programs. Admission (includes all programs and activities): adults \$14, 62 & over \$13, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, 2 & under free. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.



Old Vermont Roads

THE old-time roads, they used to run
Right over all the hills and rises,
And made the shortest kind of cut
To get to Benning Wentworth's prizes;
They wasn't tipped with tepid tar,
They might have made a shofer cavil,
But they was all the kind of roads
Our settler fathers had to travel.

They run them roads from town to town
About the way they shot a rifle;
A river didn't change their course,
A mountain made 'em bend a trifle;
Oh! yes; they jest was "water-bound"—
No grease or graft or even gravel,
But still they averaged 'bout as good
As what we modern "dusties" travel.

The fathers didn't walk abroad
Arrayed in pumps and Paris slippers;
They took no hikes along the pikes,
They never posed as "Sunday trippers;"
They didn't wash their socks with lux,
Or rense 'em out in *eau de javel*,
And where they went they had to go—
That's why the fathers used to travel.

It's 'bout the same with us to-day;
You don't back out your panting flivver
To take a pleasure ride—not much—
And get an embolismic liver;
You know jest how a shell-hole looks,
You've seen all sorts of "surface" ravel,
You know that when you near a bridge
You'll see it billed, "Unsafe for Travel."

And when a highway hit a grant
In them old days, it didn't schism,
But plowed right through to Center Town,
Like highbrows chasing up an ism;
And there they built a hard-shell church,
But didn't fool with soft-shell gravel—
The road the circuit-rider used
Was good enough for all to travel.

The teams from Albany got through,
The stages seldom missed in Summer,
The sacred cod was right on hand
But not as yet the Boston drummer;
He didn't come until he heard
The rap of Trade's compelling gavel,
And all the road he counted on
Was one a traveling man could travel.

It's great to trace them roadways now
Through worn-out field and back-lot mowing;
The suller holes and lilac trees
Still show where life was once a-flowing;
They're smoother now than lots of "pikes,"
A-dumdummed up with soft-nose gravel—
I often wish we had 'em back,
Them roads the fathers used to travel.

—DANIEL L. CADY
West Windsor, VT 1919

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Vermont Country Calendar

MONDAY, MAY 25

KILLINGTON. Annual Stage Race. Cyclists from across the U.S., Canada, and international racers from as far as Bermuda and New Zealand travel to Killington to participate in the Killington Stage Race. killingtonstagerace.com. Through May 25.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site Memorial Day Remembrance. At noon battlefield flags will be raised to full-mast and tribute paid to the soldiers of Hubbardton at the battle monument. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under free. 9:30 am – 5 pm. Thursday through Sunday and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. elsa.gilbertson@state.vt.us. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/hubbardton. May 23 through October 12.

SHREWSBURY. Memorial Day Hike on Shrewsbury Peak. Loop via CCC Road, Shrewsbury Peak and Black Swamp Trails. Good views. 3.9 miles if car-spot, or 5.4 miles if we walk the road between trailheads. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club. Free. Contact leader Peter Hope at (603) 863-6456. www.greenmountainclub.org.

VERGENNES. Memorial Day Parade. Two miles of colorful floats, groups, horses, antique cars, and more! Begins 11 am at the high school and ends up at Vergennes City Park. (802) 877-3216.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

MANCHESTER. Last Best Hope Talk. This year's speaker is Sarah Red-Laird, a.k.a. "The Bee Girl." She'll talk about pollinators and the peril they're in, and subsequently we're in. Reservations recommended, the talk is free. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, south of the village. Call (802) 367-7960. stephanie@hildene.org. www.hildene.org.

WEST BRATTLEBORO. Vermont Jazz Center Concert: As Yet Quintet. Original music with Jazz, Balkan, Middle Eastern and Caribbean influences. \$15 (students \$5). 7:30 pm. West Village Meeting House, 29 South St. Information and registration: julian@zabapmusic.com. (802) 254-9088. vtjazz.org.

FRIDAY, MAY 29

BELLOWS FALLS. Windham Orchestra Concert: Stormy Seas & Sirens. Performing Charles Dodge, 'Elegy for Viola and Orchestra' (premiere); Sibelius, 'The Storm'; Debussy, 'Three Nocturnes'. Tickets: name your price—\$5 to \$50. 7:30 pm. Bellows Falls Union High School. (802) 257-4523. info@bmcvt.org. www.bmcvt.org.

EAST FAIRFIELD. Concert: The Sky Blue Boys. The Meeting House on the Green hosts a fine little concert series. 7 pm. Meeting House, 53 School St. (802) 827-3130.

SOUTH POMFRET. An Evening of Opera and Spirituals with vocal ensemble Cantare Con Spirito. Music by Mozart, Verdi, and Bizet, and spirituals including Old Time Religion, Ain't Got Time To Die, Swing Low, Swing Chariot, and Ride on King Jesus. \$20 at the door, cash bar, limited seating available. 7:30 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.artistreevt.org. Also May 30.

THETFORD CENTER. Feathered Fridays. Weekly bird walks in the park's "Mystery Trail" section. Free. 7-10 am. Union Village Dam Park, Rt. 113 entrance. (603) 795-4167.

WOODSTOCK. Concert: Cantare Con Spirito give a sneak peek performance of their upcoming concert. 1 pm. Normal Williams Public Library, 10 The Green. (802) 457-2295. www.normanwilliams.org.

SATURDAY, MAY 30

BRANDON. Concert: Chamber Music with Arioso. Admission: \$15, show and dinner \$35. Call for reservations. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. info@brandon-music.net. www.brandon-music.net.

BURLINGTON. Performance: Vermont Ballet Theater School's Celebration of Dance. Tickets: \$25/\$17. 1 & 6:30 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-5966. www.flynncenter.org.

EAST HARDWICK. Plant Swap. The Swap Sisters will be on the lawn with plants to share. Children's Parade starting at 11 am with festivities to follow. 10:30 am - 1 pm. Caledonia Grange #9, 88 East Church St. (802) 755-6336.

MANCHESTER. Workshop: Bee Safari. Led by Sarah Red-Laird, a.k.a. "The Bee Girl." She'll teach about pollinators and the peril they're in. Fee: \$10, reservations recommended. In the Beckwith Room, Hildene, off Rt. 7A, south of the village. Call (802) 367-7960. stephanie@hildene.org. www.hildene.org.

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS. Friends of the Library's Gardening Festival. Plant & garden sale: perennials, seedlings, vegetable starts, bulbs, houseplants, books, tools, pots, garden art, clothing, canning supplies, and any & everything relating to gardening. Free workshops on canning basics, fermentation, soil sustainability, and eating from the garden year-round. Pizza & ice cream for sale. Raffle. 8 am - 3 pm on the Green. For more information contact Maureen McCormack at (802) 235-1245.

MIDDLEBURY. 6th Annual Rhubarb Festival. Sponsored by the Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society. All things rhubarb and more! Free admission. Lunch tickets at door. 10 am – 2 pm. Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, Charles Ave. at 2 Duane Court. Parking in high school lot. (802) 388-8080. cvuus.net.

MONTPELIER. 4th Annual BirdFest 2015. Early morning bird walks, bird banding demonstrations, bird drawing and photography contests, bird carving demonstrations. 7 am – 1:30 pm. North Branch Nature Center, 713 Elm St. (802) 229-6206. www.northbranchnaturecenter.org.

PROCTOR. "Songs of the Season" Flower Show. Presented by the Rutland Garden Club. Admission \$5 seniors, \$7 adults. 12:30-5 pm. Vermont Marble Museum, 52 Main St. (802) 459-2750. www.vermont-marble.com. Also May 31.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. 10 am – 2 pm. At Depot Park. (802) 753-7269. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 24.

SOUTH POMFRET. Concert: Jarvis Green & Cantare Con Spirito—An Evening of Opera & Spirituals. \$20 at the door, cash bar. Concert at 7:30 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.jarvisantoniogreen.com. www.artistreevt.org.

WOODSTOCK. Bud Burst and Bird Song. Two-hour hike to try your hand at the basics of monitoring birds, salamanders, forest health and water quality. Bring water and bug repellent. Binoculars and a smartphone will also be handy. Moderate, three miles. Free. 10 am - 12 noon. Co-sponsored by Marsh-Billing NHP, Vermont Coverts and Vermont Woodlands Association. Meet at the Prosper Road trailhead, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller. (802) 457-3368 x 22. tbarneyvt@mac.com. www.vtcoverts.org.

SUNDAY, MAY 31

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra. Performing Mahler Symphony No. 6. Tickets \$10/\$15. 2 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College. (603) 646-2010. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

HUNTINGTON. Spring Hike. From Burrows parking lot we'll cut over to Forest City Trail and hike up to the Long Trail. From the summit, we'll come down the Burrows Trail back to the parking lot. Moderate hike, 5.2 miles. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. Contact leader in advance: Wes Volk at (802) 355-4135. www.greenmountainclub.org.

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The Fair Haven Farmers Market, in the Park

Fridays 3–6, June 12th through October 24th

Birding Hot Spots in Rutland County

Rutland County Audubon is developing a list of places to bird in our area—places that are special to us.

The Pleasant Street Powerline in West Rutland, not far from West Rutland Marsh, is a worthwhile stop especially if you are in the area visiting the marsh. The powerline attracts some habitat-specific species, many of which nest in the open, shrubby area. Both Golden-winged and Blue-winged warblers can be found with the occasional Brewster's hybrid. It's easy to see them by listening for their buzzy songs.

Prairie Warbler is another specialty of the powerline. You may spot one singing atop one of the shorter trees or shrubs. Other warblers that frequent the area include Black-and-white, Chestnut-

sided, American Redstart and Common Yellowthroat. In the trees that line the power line, you can also pick up Nashville, Magnolia, Ovenbird, and Yellow-rumped warblers.

American Kestrel can be seen perched on the power lines and Wood and Hermit thrush can be heard in the woods that line the powerline.

The bouncing ball song of the Field Sparrow can be heard along as well as the "drink your tea" song of the Eastern Towhee, which are fairly abundant here. Brown Thrasher is also recorded at this spot.

The best times to visit the powerline are early May through late June. As with any place that birders visit often, however, rarities can turn

up anytime. In December of 2003 a Townsend's Solitaire was found during the annual Christmas Bird Count, a first Vermont state record.

Rutland County Audubon Society hosts a monthly bird monitoring walk at the West Rutland Marsh, now in its 12th year. The next one takes place on Thursday, June 13. To date over 1,475 participants have tallied 144 species from least Bittern to Rusty Blackbird. Meet at the West Rutland Price Chopper parking lot at 7 a.m. For more information contact leader Roy Pilcher at (802) 775-3461.

Join us for the Century Count XX on Sunday May 27, as we attempt to tally 100 species in one day. Meet at the West Rutland Price Chopper parking lot at 6 a.m. Bring lunch.

The RCAS Annual Meet-



ing, Potluck, and Presentation is on June 24.

To get to the Pleasant Street Powerline, continue past the marsh boardwalk. At the next intersection, turn right onto Pleasant St. The power station will be up on the left. At the second curve in the road, you can park (taking care not to block the gate). Walk south on the power line, away from power station. You will not need to walk far to see or hear the above species.

For more information on birding in Rutland visit Rutland County Audubon Society's website at www.rutlandcountyaudubon.org.



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Vermont Country Calendar

PROCTOR. "Songs of the Season" Flower Show. Presented by the Rutland Garden Club. Admission \$5 seniors, \$7 adults. 10 am - 4 pm. Vermont Marble Museum, 52 Main St. (802) 459-2750. www.vermont-marble.com.

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 10 am - 4 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook. *Every Saturday and Sunday.*

WOODSTOCK. Concert: Marco Jordao of New York's Metropolitan Opera Chorus and Cantare Con Spirito Vocal Ensemble will perform An Afternoon of Art Songs. Suggested donation. Hors d'oeuvres at 1 pm, concert at 1:30 pm. Normal Williams Public Library, 10 The Green. (802) 457-2295. www.normanwilliams.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

RUTLAND. First Wednesdays Humanities Lecture: "Knight to Queen: Chess, Courtly Life, and the Game of Love in the Middle Ages." Chess was a status symbol, an allegory of battle, and a metaphor for love. Dartmouth professor Jane Carroll examines the game of kings. 7 pm. Hosted by the Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. www.vermonthumanities.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Hemp Storytelling. Rural Vermont and the Upper Valley Food Co-op will hosts the event at 6:30 pm at the Food Co-op. Hemp-themed snacks, stories, and discussion about hemp legislation, cultivation, and production in Vermont and beyond as part of the sixth annual Hemp History Week. Eric Linebeck of Vote Hemp and Robin Alberti and Ken Manfredi of the recently-formed Vermont chapter of the Hemp Industries Assn. will be the speakers. (802) 223-7222 or (802) 295-5804 and www.ruralvermont.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

BELLOWS FALLS. 16th Annual Roots on the River Festival. 33 Bridge St. (802) 463-9595. www.rootsontheriver.com. *Through June 7.*

ENOSBURG FALLS. 59th Vermont Dairy Festival. Celebrating all things dairy with a long parade, a famous chicken barbeque, pig races, pancake breakfast, horse pull, baking contest, car show, country music, midway, pageant, fireworks and much more. Organized by The Enosburg Falls Lions Club. Rain or shine. Veterans Park. Admission. (802) 933-4134. www.vermontdairyfestival.com. *Through June 7.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

BELLOWS FALLS. 16th Annual Roots on the River Festival. 33 Bridge St. (802) 463-9595. info@vermontfestivalsllc.com. www.rootsontheriver.com. *Through June 7.*

BENNINGTON. Film Viewing: Disappearances, by Jay Craven. Based on the novel by Howard Frank Moshier. Tickets: \$7. 8 pm. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Strolling of the Heifers Weekend. Events all weekend June 5-7. (802) 246-0982. www.strollingoftheheifers.com. *Through June 7.*

BURLINGTON. 32nd Annual Discover Jazz Festival. A 10-day live music festival. Events and performances throughout downtown Burlington including Wayne Shorter Quartet, Spanish Harlem Orchestra, Soule Monde, Mavis Staples, Oscar Peñas Quartet, Sneakers Jazz Band, and more. Tickets at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. *Through June 14.*

ENOSBURG FALLS. 59th Vermont Dairy Festival. Celebrating all things dairy with a long parade, a famous chicken barbeque, pig races, pancake breakfast, horse pull, baking contest, car show, country music, midway, pageant, fireworks and much more. Organized by The Enosburg Falls Lions Club. Rain or shine. Veterans Park. Admission. (802) 933-4134. www.vermontdairyfestival.com. *Through June 7.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

BELLOWS FALLS. 16th Annual Roots on the River Festival. 33 Bridge St. (802) 463-9595. info@vermontfestivalsllc.com. www.rootsontheriver.com. *Through June 7.*

BRATTLEBORO. Concert: Eugene Uman's Convergence Project. Elements of jazz, rock and funk, and the rhythms of folkloric Colombian music. Tickets: sliding scale \$20-\$40. 8 pm. Vermont Jazz Center, 74 Cotton Mill Hill. (802) 254-9088. www.vtjazz.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Strolling of the Heifers Weekend. Heifers parade at 10 a.m. on Brattleboro's historic Main Street, followed by 11-acre Slow Living Expo for food, music, dance, demonstrations, exhibits and fun. Events all weekend. (802) 246-0982. www.strollingoftheheifers.com. *Also June 7.*

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival. A 10-day live music festival. Events and performances throughout downtown Burlington. Tickets at Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. *Through June 14.*

ENOSBURG FALLS. 59th Vermont Dairy Festival. Celebrating all things dairy with a long parade, a famous chicken barbeque, pig races, pancake breakfast, horse pull, baking contest, car show, country music, midway, pageant, fireworks and much more. Rain or shine. Veterans Park. Admission. (802) 933-4134. www.vermontdairyfestival.com. *Also June 7.*

MANCHESTER CENTER. 29th Annual Antique and Classic Car Show. Antique and classic cars, food vendors and flea market, car parade through town on Sat. at 4 pm. Rt. 30, Dorr Farm. (802) 362-6313. www.manchestercarshow.com. *Also June 7.*

POULTNEY. Annual Town Wide Yard Sale. Great deals, interesting merchandise, food selections and bargains of all sorts. 9 am - 4 pm, rain or shine. For information call Mary Helm at Simply Clean (802) 287-1120 or Nina Corbin at Poultney Area Chamber of Commerce (802) 287-2010. www.poultneyvt.com.

RIPTON. Ripton Community Coffee House Concert. Rani Arbo and Greg Ryan. Concert preceded by an open mic (call ahead to reserve a spot). Refreshments available. Wheelchair accessible but the bathrooms are not. Admission \$10, \$8 for seniors and teens, \$3 for children. 7:30 pm. The Ripton Community House, 1305 Rt. 125. (802) 388-9782. rcch.org. klyma.com. *First Saturdays.*

WEST WARDBORO. Springtime Paddle. Meet at 10 am at Grout Pond, off the Wardeboro-Arlington Rd., at the boat put-in, for a paddle (bring your own kayak or canoe - PFD is mandatory). Sponsored by the Manchester Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. RSVP to trip leaders, Liz Greak and Barb Comer at (203) 362-0765.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Public Print Appraisals. By esteemed print dealer Jeannot Barr, founder and original director of the New York Print Fair. (\$5 for verbal estimate, formal estimate can be arranged.) 1-4 pm. Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, 85 North Main St, Suite 160. (802) 295-5901. tworiversprintmaking.com. trps@sover.net.

WOODSTOCK. Trek to Taste. Local food, fun and fitness. Choose from four different hikes and along the way sample delicious, local foods. Enjoy family games, arts and crafts, demonstrations, ice cream social, music, and more. Free. 10 am. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park, 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368. www.trektotaste.info.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

BELLOWS FALLS. 16th Annual Roots on the River Festival. At the Rockingham Meeting House at noon. Pleasant Valley Brewing at 6 pm. (802) 463-9595. info@vermontfestivalsllc.com. www.rootsontheriver.com.

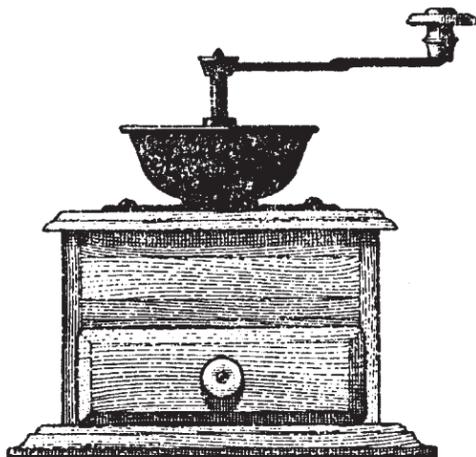
BRATTLEBORO. Strolling of the Heifers Weekend. Events all weekend. (802) 246-0982. www.strollingoftheheifers.com.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival. A 10-day live music festival. Events and performances throughout downtown Burlington. Tickets at Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. *Through June 14.*

CHITTENDEN. 34th Annual Teenie's Fishing Derby for handicapped & senior citizens. Bring your own chair, bait & tackle. Food served at 11:30. Fishing starts at 1 pm. All free. 11 am - 3 pm. Teenie's Tiny Poultry Farm, Chittenden Rd./Teenie's Tiny Rd. (802) 773-2637. rdubin3@gmail.com.

ENOSBURG FALLS. 59th Vermont Dairy Festival. Celebrating all things dairy. Rain or shine. Veterans Park. Admission. (802) 933-4134. www.vermontdairyfestival.com.

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum Open House—40th Season! Music, small shows, sourdough rye—and one of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets in the world housed in a 100-foot-long converted dairy barn built in 1863. At 4 pm the Bread and Puppet Company will perform *The Public Access Center for the Obvious Presents: The Situation* in the Paper Mache Cathedral. \$10 suggested donation. Free admission to the museum, donations welcome. 2-5 pm. Bread and Puppet Farm, Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org.



Earth Waits

Here where the mountain laurel comes to bloom
Like great white sheep who graze without a sound,
And deer come loping down steep cattle runs,
Are old lost meadows waiting to be found.
White birch and alder crept across these fields
Where long ago the summer grasses swayed
And stone walls tumbled to the patient earth
Where once the eager children laughed and played.
Now mountain silence lies upon the land
For city streets have claimed its hill-born men;
But hands remember how to hold a plow
The good earth waits; they will come back again.

—INEZ GEORGE GRIDLEY
1936

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Vermont Country Calendar

(June 7, continued)

MANCHESTER CENTER. 29th Annual Antique and Classic Car Show. Antique and classic cars, food vendors and flea market, car parade through town on Sat. at 4 pm. Rt. 30, Dorr Farm. (802) 362-6313. www.manchestercarshow.com.

WOODSTOCK. Ice Cream Sundays. Lend a hand making and sampling delicious ice cream at 12:15 & 2:15 p.m. while learning the history and science of this dairy treat. Admission (includes all programs and activities): adults \$14, 62 & over \$13, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, 2 & under free. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org. Also June 14, 21 & 28.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival. A 10-day live music festival. Events and performances throughout downtown Burlington. Tickets at Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 14.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

HARTLAND. Upper Valley Seed Savers meet on the second Thursday of the month at 5 pm at member's gardens. Our mission is to further knowledge about seed saving and to work on projects that will help develop a body of locally-adapted open-pollinated vegetable seeds. For information, or if you can't come to meetings but would like to receive a monthly email with our minutes which contain information on our projects, please contact Sylvia Davatz at sdav@valley.net or call (802) 436-3262.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival. A 10-day live music festival. Events and performances throughout downtown Burlington. Tickets at Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 14.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival. A 10-day live music festival. Events and performances throughout downtown Burlington. Tickets at Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 14.

WINDSOR. Peony Days. Selected peony sale. We have over 100 varieties. Peak peony season is June 1 through mid-July. The Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery at 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. Open daily from 10 am - 6 pm. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. www.garymilk.com. www.ciderhillgardens.com. Through June 14.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

BRANDON. Concert: Gypsy Reel. Tunes rooted in the Celtic tradition but garnered from the whole world, an exciting synthesis of world rhythms and influences from three continents. Tickets: \$20. Pre-concert dinner \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. Venue is BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. info@brandon-music.net. www.brandon-music.net. gypsyreel.com.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival. A 10-day live music festival. Events and performances throughout downtown Burlington. Tickets at Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Also June 14.

BURLINGTON. Seventh Annual Sweet Potato Slip Sale, to benefit the Vermont Community Garden Network. 8 am - 6 pm. Red Wagon Plants, 2408 Shelburne Falls Rd. (802) 482-4060. julie@redwagonplants.com. www.redwagonplants.com. www.vcgn.org. Through June 14.

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum. A performance of *Underneath the Above Shows* in the Paper Mache Cathedral. \$10 suggested donation. Museum tour at 6 pm. Show at 7:30 pm. Bread and Puppet Farm, Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org. Saturday nights through August 29 and September 12-26.

HUBBARDTON. Scrapbooking Afternoon. Children and the young at heart are invited to create and decorate scrapbooks and journals to record their family history. Materials provided. 1-3 pm. Free admission. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/hubbardton.

MONTPELIER. Free Admission to Vermont History Museum. Bring the whole family! 12-4 pm. Vermont History Museum, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291. www.vermonthistory.org. Also June 14.

NORTH CLARENDON. Strawberry Festival. Menu: ham, coleslaw, potato salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, beverages, strawberry shortcake or strawberries & ice cream. Adults \$10, children (6-12) \$5, 5 & under free. Dessert only, \$5. 4-7 pm. The Brick Church (Clarendon Congregational Church), 298 Middle Rd. (802) 773-3873. www.brickchurchvt.com.

NORWICH. Contradance with Northern Spy and caller David Millstone. No partner necessary. Beginners and singles always welcome. All dances taught and called. Please bring a change of clean shoes for the dance floor. Admission \$8 (Students \$5, under 16 free). 8 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 785-4607. rbarrows@cs.dartmouth.edu. Second Saturday dances resume in September.

ORWELL. Mount Independence History Program: "It's now as cold as ever I felt in my life—Winter Soldiering on Mount Independence." Mike Barbieri, a lifelong Vermonter and longtime reenactor, draws on over 40 years of research and interpretation of the American Revolution. 2-3:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/MountIndependence.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Free Fishing Day. Residents and nonresidents may go fishing in the Green Mountain State without a fishing license. Vermont has 284 lakes and over 7,000 miles of clear streams offering the greatest variety of high quality fresh water fishing in the Northeast. Ask for a copy of the "Hunting, Fishing & Trapping Laws and Guide" at (802) 828-1000. www.vtfishandwildlife.com. Also June 14.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Days Weekend at the State Historic Sites. Free admission to all the Vermont State-owned Historic Sites. 9:30 am to 5 pm. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. www.vermontdays.com. Also June 14.

STATEWIDE. Free Day-Use at Vermont State Parks. Over 50 State Parks to choose from to spend time outdoors with your friends and family. Hiking, biking, boating, fishing, picnicking – or just relaxing with a good book! www.vtstateparks.com. Also June 14.

STATEWIDE. National Get Outdoors Day. U.S. Forest Service waives day use and campground fees today to encourage visitors to enjoy the vast recreation opportunities available on public lands with the exception (due to high maintenance costs) of Hapgood Pond campground in Peru, VT. (866) 632-9992. www.fs.fed.us.

WINDSOR. Peony Days. Selected peony sale. Over 100 varieties. The Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery at 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. Open daily from 10 am - 6 pm. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. www.ciderhillgardens.com. www.garymilk.com. Also June 14.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

BURLINGTON. Seventh Annual Sweet Potato Slip Sale, to benefit the Vermont Community Garden Network. 8 am - 6 pm. Red Wagon Plants, 2408 Shelburne Falls Rd. (802) 482-4060. julie@redwagonplants.com. www.vcgn.org.

FERRISBURGH. Exhibit Opening. *The Farm: Drawings of Rowland Evans Robinson, 1850-1880*. Admission \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$8 students, children under 5 free. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org. Open through October 25.



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— June 5 to October 30 —

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Vermont Country Calendar

(June 14, continued)

MONTPELIER. Free Admission to Vermont History Museum. Bring the whole family! 12-4 pm. Vermont History Museum, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291. www.vermonthistory.org. Also June 14.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Days Weekend at the State Historic Sites. Free admission to all the Vermont State-owned Historic Sites. 9:30 am to 5 pm. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. www.vermontdays.com.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Free Fishing Day. Residents and nonresidents may go fishing in the Green Mountain State without a fishing license. Vermont has 284 lakes and over 7,000 miles of clear streams offering the greatest variety of high quality fresh water fishing in the Northeast. Ask for a copy of the "Hunting, Fishing & Trapping Laws and Guide" at (802) 828-1000. www.vtfishandwildlife.com. Also June 14.

STATEWIDE. Free Day-Use at Vermont State Parks. Over 50 State Parks to choose from to spend time outdoors with your friends and family. Hiking, biking, boating, fishing, picnicking – or just relaxing with a good book! www.vtstateparks.com.

WINDSOR. Peony Days. Selected peony sale. We have over 100 varieties. Peak peony season is June 1 through mid-July. The Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery at 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. Open daily from 10 am - 6 pm. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. ciderhillgardens.com. www.garymilek.com.

WOODSTOCK. Ice Cream Sundays. Lend a hand making and sampling delicious ice cream at 12:15 & 2:15 p.m. while learning the history and science of this dairy treat. Admission (includes all programs and activities): adults \$14, 62 & over \$13, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, 2 & under free. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org. Also June 14, 21 & 28.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

HUBBARDTON. New Moon Night. Stargaze with members of the Green Mountain Alliance of Amateur Astronomers, who bring their telescopes and knowledge to share. If you like, bring binoculars, blankets, and flashlights. We provide the marshmallows. If inclement weather, inside illustrated program. Call to confirm. Free admission. 8-11 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 759-2412. historicites.vermont.gov/hubbardton.

SHELBURNE. Tea and Formal Gardens Tour at the Inn. An intimate tour of the Inn and its luxuriant cottage-style gardens followed by delectable sweets and savories in the Tea Room. Tickets \$18. 2:30-4:30 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. (802) 985-8686. www.shelburnefarms.org. Every Tuesday and Thursday through October 15.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

MOUNT TABOR. Late Spring Hike. Meet at 2 pm at the Little Rock Pond trailhead on Forest Road 10 to hike into Little Rock Pond on the Long Trail and back the same way, 350 ft elevation gain, total 4 miles, easy hike. Sponsored by the Manchester Section of the Green Mountain Club. Free. Newcomers and non-members welcome. RSVP to trip leader, Marge Fish at (802) 824-3662. marge.fish@gmail.com.

STRATTON. Wanderlust Festival. Join leading yoga teachers, top musicians, renowned speakers, exquisite chefs and thrilling performers in a multi-day mountaintop exploration of yoga, music and nature, or day-long retreat. www.stratton.com. (800) 787-2886. Through June 21.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

BURLINGTON. Wine & Food Festival. Winemakers will team up with some of the best chefs in Vermont to create unique menus highlighting their creativity and showcasing food and wine pairings at Waterfront Park and other locations. Live jazz. Tickets \$60-70. (802) 865-7247. burlingtonwineandfoodfestival.com. Also June 20.

QUECHEE. 36th Annual Quechee Hot Air Balloon, Craft and Music Festival. Balloon Glow Friday evening at dusk. Adam Ezra Group performs. Over 20 hot air balloons with five flights during the festival with additional tethered rides during the day. Music and entertainment, over 60 craft artisans and vendors, children's activities including train rides, a bounce house and more, festival food and beer and wine garden. Admission: adults, 13+, \$15; children 6-12, \$5; 5 years and under, free. Gates open at 3 pm. On Quechee Green. (802) 295-7990. www.quecheeballoonfestival.com. Through June 21.

STRATTON. Wanderlust Festival. Join leading yoga teachers, top musicians, renowned speakers, exquisite chefs and thrilling performers in a multi-day mountaintop exploration of yoga, music and nature, or day-long retreat. www.stratton.com. (800) 787-2886. Through June 21.

TINMOUTH. Contra Dance. Music by The Plumb Bobs. Admission \$9, \$7 for teens, 12 and under free. Refreshments. 8 pm at Tinmouth Community Center, Rt. 140, 5 miles west of Wallingford. For info or directions call (802) 446-2928. Tinmouthvt.org. Every fourth Friday.



SATURDAY, JUNE 20

BRANDON. Classical Concert. The Northern Third Piano Quartet performs music of Mozart, Shostakovich, the U.S. premiere of Middlebury composer Jorge Martin's "Don't Know Yet", and Schumann's Piano Quartet in E-Flat Major, Op. 47. Tickets \$20. Pre-concert dinner \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. BYOB. 7:30 at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. www.brandon-music.net.

BROWNINGTON. Antique Engine Show and Barbecue. Old Stone House Museum, 109 Old Stone House Rd. (802) 754-2022. www.oldstonehousemuseum.org.

BURLINGTON. Wine & Food Festival. Winemakers team up with some of the best chefs in Vermont to create unique menus at Waterfront Park and other locations. Live jazz. Tickets \$60-70. (802) 865-7247. www.burlingtonwineandfoodfestival.com.

COLCHESTER. 19th Annual Strawberry Festival. Fresh strawberry shortcake with whipped cream, strawberry milkshakes, strawberry fudge, strawberry jam & chocolate-dipped strawberries. Pony rides, kids games, petting zoo, face painting & Vermont specialty food samples. 11 am - 4 pm. Sam Mazza's, 277 Lavigne Rd. (802) 655-3440. www.sammazzafarms.com.

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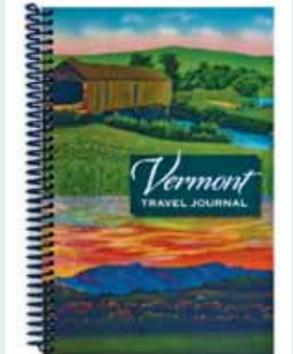
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Vermont Country Calendar

(June 20, continued)

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum. A performance of *Underneath the Above Shows* in the Paper Mache Cathedral. \$10 suggested donation. Museum tour at 6 pm. Show at 7:30 pm. Bread and Puppet Farm, Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org. *Saturday nights through August 29 and September 12-26.*

GUILFORD. Annual Guilford Community Church Strawberry Supper. Ham and homemade baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, deviled eggs, homemade rolls, beverages, and strawberry shortcake with real whipped cream. Seatings at 5 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$11 adults, \$5 children under 11, preschool \$3. At the Guilford Community Church, 38 Church Dr. off Bee Barn Rd. Directions: I-91 Exit 1; go south on Rt. 5; turn left onto Bee Barn Rd., just past Guilford County Store and before the bridge. (802) 254-9019. guilfordchurchsupper@gmail.com.

HARTFORD. Strawberry Supper. Ham, baked beans, macaroni & potato salad, coleslaw, and quickbreads, served family-style. Strawberry shortcake, strawberry sundae, or plain strawberries. \$12 adults; \$4 under 12; pre-school free. Seatings at 5 & 6 pm. Handicap accessible. Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, Rt. 14. (802) 295-2697.

HARTLAND. Fourth Annual JazzFest. Over 60 musicians including nationally recognized special guests and favorite local jazz musicians. Food vendors, big tent, adjacent playground, for the whole family. Bring a picnic and chairs. Donation \$15, children under 12 free. 12-8 pm at Foster Meadow Field (next to town library). jazzfest@hartlandcommunityarts.org. hartlandcommunityarts.org.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN. LCI Father's Day Fishing Derby. Opens at 12 am on June 20, closes at 4 pm on June 22. The centerpiece of this celebration of family, friends, and fishing is Vermont's Lake Champlain, a world-renowned fishery and one of the most beautiful lakes in the country. Divisions for women, juniors, teams, and individuals competing in a variety of categories. Registration fees. (802) 879-3466. www.mychamplain.net. *Through June 22.*

NORWICH. Summer Revels. Choral and community singing, dancing around the maypole, and a Mummers' play. The audience will help Robin Hood, Maid Marian and the Merry Folk put on a festival, in spite of opposition from the dastardly Sheriff of Nottingham. Crafting activities for children, food available for purchase. Everyone is welcome to join the adult, teen and children's choruses. The Green opens at 5:30 pm for food and crafts; performance begins at dusk (around 7 pm). NorwichGreen.revelsnorth.org/summer-revels.

QUECHEE. 36th Annual Quechee Hot Air Balloon, Craft and Music Festival. Morning balloon ascension at 6 am and 6 pm. Country star Tim Charron performs at 6 pm. Over 20 hot air balloons with five flights during the festival tethered rides during the day. Music and entertainment, over 60 craft artisans and vendors, children's activities including train rides, a bounce house and more, festival food and beer and wine garden. Admission: adults, 13+, \$15; children 6-12, \$5; 5 years and under, free. On Quechee Green. (802) 295-7990. www.quecheeballoonfestival.com. *Through June 21.*

STRATTON. Wanderlust Festival. Join leading yoga teachers, top musicians, renowned speakers, exquisite chefs and thrilling performers in a multi-day mountaintop exploration of yoga, music and nature, or day-long retreat. www.stratton.com. (800) 787-2886. *Also June 21.*

VERGENNES. Little City Yard Sale. Antiques, memorabilia, clothing, furniture, electronics, children's items, etc. at homes and at the downtown park, 9 am - 3 pm. Yard sale map available. For info, or to register to participate, contact Maria Benoit at the Addison County Chamber of Commerce. (802) 388-7951 x 101. www.addisoncounty.com/yardsale.

WATERFORD. Historic House & Garden Tour & Rhubarb Cafe. Self-guided tour. 12 pm. Congregational Church, Lower Waterford Rd. and Maple St. (802) 748-2600. www.catamountarts.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Two-day Workshop: "Woodblock Printing—The Freedom of Limitations" with Amparo Carvajal-Hufschmid. No prior experience necessary. After going over basics, participants will have a week to experiment at home with materials and ideas presented on the first day. Fee: \$250 plus \$30 materials fee. \$100 to reserve a spot. 10 am - 4 pm. Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, 85 North Main St, Suite 160. (802) 295-5901. www.tworiversprintmaking.com. trps@sover.net. *Also June 27.*

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Workshop: Woodblock Printing with Amparo Carvajal-Hufschmid. 10 am - 4 pm. Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, 85 N. Main St., Suite 160. (802) 295-5901. trps@sover.net. www.tworiversprintmaking.com. *Also June 27.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

HUBBARDTON. Battlefield Third Sunday—Military Road Hike. Meet at the battlefield visitor center. Site interpreter Carl Fuller leads a vigorous guided hike on the Hubbardton section of the 1776-77 military road leading to Mount Independence. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. 2-5 pm. Free admission. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/hubbardton.

MANCHESTER. Community Day at Hildene. Visit The Lincoln Family's home and gardens, welcome center, museum store, Pullman car Sunbeam and Rowland Agricultural Center at Hildene Farm including 12 miles of scenic woodland and meadow trails. No admission fee. This is Hildene's way of thanking the community. 9:30 am - 4:30 pm at 1005 Hildene Rd. off Rt. 7A south of the village. (802) 362-1788. www.hildene.org.

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS. 39th Annual Strawberry Festival. To benefit the Middletown Springs Historical Society. Museum's exhibits open and live music by Paul Morgan and Friends. Local crafts and artists. Raffle. Quarts of strawberries for sale. Strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, ice cream, and whipped cream for \$6 per person. Coffee, ice tea, and lemonade are included. 2-4 pm on the Green, Rt. 140. (802) 235-2376.

ORWELL. Mount Independence History Program: Colonial Founding Fathers and Their Children. In honor of Father's Day, historian and site interpreter Paul Andriscin presents an illustrated talk on American colonial founding fathers John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin and their children. 2-3 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/MountIndependence.

QUECHEE. 36th Annual Quechee Hot Air Balloon, Craft and Music Festival. Morning balloon ascension at 6 am and 6 pm. Michele Fay Band performs at 8:30 & 10 am and the Dave Keller Band performs at 4:15 pm. Over 20 hot air balloons with five flights during the festival with additional tethered rides during the day. Music and entertainment, over 60 craft artisans and vendors, children's activities, train rides, a bounce house and more, festival food and beer and wine garden. Admission: adults, 13+, \$15; children 6-12, \$5; 5 years and under, free. On Quechee Green. (802) 295-7990. www.quecheeballoonfestival.com.

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Green Mountain National Forest Waives Fees For National Get Outdoors Day on June 13

The Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) and Finger Lakes National Forest (FLNF) officials announced today that the U.S. Forest Service will be waiving day use and campground fees on June 13, 2015 in celebration of National Get Outdoors Day. "National Get Outdoors Day encourages visitors to enjoy the vast recreation opportunities available on public lands.

Providing fee-free days is our way of thanking our visitors while encouraging more people to enjoy their national forests," said Forest Supervisor John Sinclair. The U.S. Forest Service will waive fees at most of its day-use

recreation sites several times in 2015 and encourages the public to take advantage of National Get Outdoors Day as one fee-free opportunity when federal agencies, non-profit organizations and the recreation industry join to promote healthy, outdoor activities.

Despite the Forest Service's fee waivers, the agency does not charge for access on 98 percent of its land. More than two-thirds of the Forest Service's approximately 18,000 recreation sites nationwide can be used for free, including: picnic sites, campsites, beach and lake areas, trails, boat launches, and cabins. Recreation fees

are generally collected to support maintenance of forest recreation facilities in developed campgrounds and day use sites on the 400,000 acre GMNF in Vermont and 16,000 acre FLNF in New York. The only overnight campground fee that will not be waived, due to high maintenance costs, is that at the Hapgood Pond Campground in Peru, VT. Additional fee waiver days will be held in celebration of National Public Lands Day in September and Veteran's Day in November.

For more information, see www.fs.fed.us or call (866) 632-9992.



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Vermont Country Calendar

MONDAY, JUNE 22

VERGENNES. 39th Annual Strawberry Festival. Strawberry shortcake with homemade pound cake, strawberries and ice cream, and beverages for \$5. Vergennes City Band will play 6-8 pm in the Vergennes City Park. (802) 759-3218.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

SHOREHAM. Annual Strawberry Festival. Strawberry shortcake, strawberry pies, strawberry sundaes, just plain strawberries, and more! Prices \$2-\$7. A limited number of whole strawberry pies may be available as well. 5-7 pm. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-2687.

TUNBRIDGE. 15th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Experience Bluegrass Green Mountain Style! Music, classes, workshops. Choose from multi-day or single-day admission. Camping is available. 8 am - 9 pm. At Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. www.jennybrookbluegrass.com. *Through June 28.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

BARRE. RockFire. Art, music and fire combine on a monumental scale, celebrating central Vermont's colorful granite heritage, set in abandoned quarries and granite ruins. Admission: adults \$10-\$25, ages 10-17 \$5-\$12. At The Lodge at Millstone Hill. (802) 479-1000. www.rockfirevt.com. *Through June 28.*

ESSEX JUNCTION. Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest quilt festival. Hundreds of colorful quilts on display in two large exhibit halls. Free gallery talks and vendor demonstrations. Lectures, classes, raffles, vendors. New quilt appraisals. Admission: one-day \$12, two-day \$22, three-day \$32, children under 14 free with paying adult. At the Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. Also, June 27-28. (802) 872-0034. www.vqf.org. *Through June 28.*

MIDDLEBURY. Pops Concert and Fireworks. Vermont Philharmonic performance. Bring your chairs, blankets, flashlights, and a picnic. Grounds open at 5:30 pm, concert at 7:30 pm. Middlebury College behind Mahaney Center for the Arts, 14 Old Chapel Rd. (802) 388-2117. www.henrysheldonmuseum.org.

TUNBRIDGE. 15th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Experience Bluegrass Green Mountain Style! Music, classes, workshops. Choose from multi-day or single-day admission. Camping is available. 8 am - 9 pm. At Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. www.jennybrookbluegrass.com. *Through June 28.*

WATERBURY. 42nd Annual Strawberry Supper. Delicious buffet dinner at historic downtown church followed by strawberry shortcake (made with local strawberries). Full meal includes drink & dessert, or you can get "just desserts." Take-out too! \$12 adults, 12 and under \$8, families \$30, dessert only \$4. Handicap accessible. 5-7 pm. Waterbury Congregational Church, 8 N. Main St. (802) 244-6606.

WINDHAM. 5th Annual Friendly Gathering Music Festival. See Vermont's own jam band Twiddle and the inspirational world music Nahko & Medicine for the People. 30 musical acts will play at the festival which combines music, camping, yoga, food, skateboarding, dancing, inspiration and a big dose of Friendship. Tickets \$139 for weekend pass; children 12 and under, free. 420 Magic Mountain Access Rd. (802) 881-3138. www.friendlygathering.com. *Also June 27.*

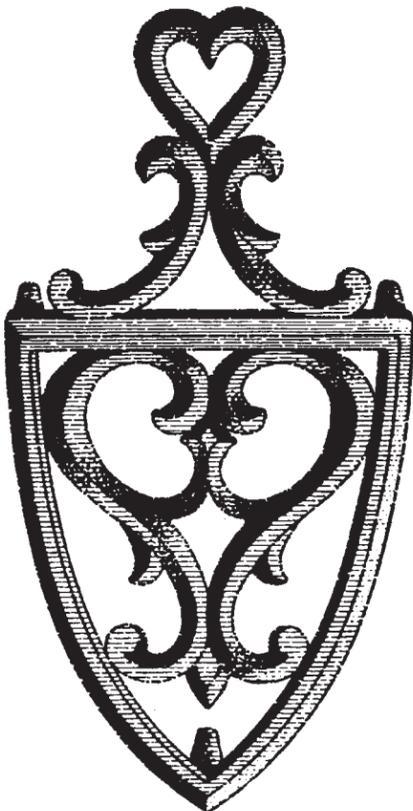
SATURDAY, JUNE 27

BARRE. RockFire Granite Heritage Night. Art, music and fire combine on a monumental scale, celebrating central Vermont's colorful granite heritage, set in abandoned quarries and granite ruins. Evening picnic concert on June 27 with Bow Thayer, a molten-iron performance, and a three-mile long procession lit by thousands of luminaries with dozens of bonfires leading to fire-lit art installations and live performance stages. Adm.: adults \$10-\$25, ages 10-17 \$5-\$12. At The Lodge at Millstone Hill. (802) 479-1000. www.rockfirevt.com. *Also June 28.*

CASTLETON. 8th Annual Town-Wide Yard Sale. Over 50 vendors outdoors and indoors at the Community Center. Bargains, treasures, and one-of-a-kind items. "Drive-around Maps" available at the Community Center for at-home yard sales held in the area. Castleton Community Center, 2108 Main St. For more information call (802) 468-3093.

CHESTER. 13th Annual Music-In-The-Meadow Benefit. All goods and services are donated and all proceeds go to the Race for the Cure. Free admission. Saturday BBQ & music 12-6:30 pm, Sunday brunch & music 11 am - 3 pm. Motel-in-The-Meadow, 936 Route 11 West. (802) 875-2626. www.motelinthemeadow.com. *Also June 28.*

DUMMERSTON CENTER. Annual Old-Fashioned Strawberry Supper. Ham and baked beans, potato salad, tuna-macaroni salad, coleslaw, homemade sweetbreads, beverages, and "all you can eat" old-fashioned whole strawberry shortcakes with real whipped cream and locally grown berries! Adults \$10, children 6 and under \$5. Sponsored by the Dummerston Congregational Church. Held at Evening Star Grange Hall, 1008 East West Rd. 5-7 pm. (802) 257-0544 or (802) 257-1128.



ESSEX JUNCTION. Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest quilt festival. Hundreds of colorful quilts on display in two large exhibit halls. Free gallery talks and vendor demonstrations. Lectures, classes, antique quilt appraisals, raffles, vendors. Admission: one-day \$12, two-day \$22, three-day \$32, children under 14 free with paying adult. At the Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. Also, June 27-28. (802) 872-0034. www.vqf.org. *Also June 28.*

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum. A performance of *Underneath the Above Shows* in the Paper Mache Cathedral. \$10 suggested donation. Museum tour at 6 pm. Show at 7:30 pm. Bread and Puppet Farm, Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org. *Saturday nights through August 29 and September 12-26.*

HUNTINGTON. Monthly Bird Monitoring Walk. Experienced birders, walks in the woods, and bird-friendly coffee. Please bring your own binoculars and dress for the weather. Free, please pre-register. 7:30 am. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. www.birdsofvermont.org.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Annual Ham and Strawberry Supper. Baked pit hams with delicious special sauce and homemade baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, broccoli salad, homemade rolls, and beverages. Freshly-picked strawberries on homemade biscuits with real whipped cream. Served family-style. Handicap accessible. Reservations recommended. Adults \$12, children 8 and under \$5. One seating at 6 pm at the First Baptist Church, Rts. 7A & 30. For reservations (802) 362-3473.

MIDDLEBURY. Annual Food & Drink Festival. Sample Vermont's finest beer, wine, cider, spirits, cheese and BBQ and other foods as well as enjoying music and on-site games. 3-7 pm at the Historic Marbleworks District. www.experiencemiddlebury.com.

NORTH POMFRET. Annual Strawberry Supper. Baked ham and baked beans, potato salad, tossed salad, deviled eggs, rolls, coffee, punch, strawberry shortcake & whipped cream. Ladies Circle Bazaar and quilt raffle tickets. Supper benefits the North Pomfret Congregational Church. Seatings at 5, 6:15 & 7:30 pm at the Pomfret Town Hall. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 10. Call for reservations! (802) 457-1014.

NORWICH. 6th Annual House and Garden Tour. Tickets \$25, lunch available for purchase. Raffle. Rain or shine. 10 am - 4 pm. Norwich Historical Society, 277 Main St. (802) 649-0124. www.norwichhistory.org.

TUNBRIDGE. 15th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Experience Bluegrass Green Mountain Style! Music, classes, workshops. Choose from multi-day or single-day admission. Camping is available. 8 am - 9 pm. At Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. www.jennybrookbluegrass.com. *Also June 28.*

WELLS. Second Annual Pick-Your-Own Little Lake Orchard Strawberry Festival. Organic strawberries, music by The Wiyos Band, strawberry shortcake, strawberry lemonade, and salads by Valley Roots Catering. 12-4 pm at Little Lake Orchard, North St. Rain date 6/23. (802) 417-7946.

WINDHAM. 5th Annual Friendly Gathering Music Festival. See Vermont's own jam band Twiddle and the inspirational world music Nahko & Medicine for the People. 30 musical acts will play at the festival which combines music, camping, yoga, food, skateboarding, dancing, inspiration and a big dose of Friendship. Tickets \$139 for weekend pass; children 12 and under, free. 420 Magic Mountain Access Rd. (802) 881-3138. friendlygathering.com.

Dare

The wood's-edge thicket holds a path
Twisty enough for any seeker
Of thorny ways, and hides a thrush,
And offers shelter to the bleaker
Crow-calls. But it is a dare,
And if you're one whom brambles shake
To fright, best go the long way round
Or find another road to take.



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Featuring The Spinney Brothers

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From Thursday thru Monday camping is free.
Or, just come for the day. Plenty of field pickin'.
Gates open Sunday, July 5, 8 a.m.
Thursday Classic Country Concert with Cannonball
Express, free w/weekend ticket. others \$8.
Festival is off Rt. 73, 2 miles east of Brandon, VT.

Sponsored by Basin Bluegrass, Inc.
Call (802) 247-3275 • basinbluegrass@yahoo.com
For more information visit our website:
www.basinbluegrassfestival.com

Vermont Country Calendar

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

ADDISON. Amateur Radio Service Field Days. The Addison County Amateur Radio Association sets up a simulated emergency station, part of a nationwide event, using only emergency power supplies to practice emergency communications with no reliance on phone systems, internet, or commercial power sources. Public welcome. Call for times. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/chimneypoint.

BARRE. RockFire. Art, music and fire combine on a monumental scale, celebrating central Vermont's colorful granite heritage, set in abandoned quarries and granite ruins. Admission: adults \$10-\$25, ages 10-17 \$5-\$12. At The Lodge at Millstone Hill. (802) 479-1000. www.rockfirevt.com.

CHESTER. 13th Annual Music-In-The-Meadow Benefit. Free admission. Saturday BBQ & music 12-6:30 pm, Sunday brunch & music 11 am - 3 pm. Motel-in-The-Meadow, 936 Route 11 West. (802) 875-2626. www.motelinthemeadow.com.

EAST THETFORD. 13th Annual Strawberry Festival at Cedar Circle Farm. Children's crafts and games, theatrical performances, live music, horse-drawn wagon rides, educational activities and displays, self-guided farm tour, strawberry picking, homemade strawberry shortcake, grilled local sausages, fresh salads, organic local ice cream, and more! Rain or shine. \$10 per car (carpooling strongly encouraged). Walk or bike and get in free! Help us to reduce waste, bring your own plate, cup, and silverware. 10 am to 3 pm. 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. cedarcirclefarm.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest quilt festival. Admission: \$12, children under 14 free with paying adult. At the Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. vqf.org.

GREENSBORO. Season Opening: Circus Smirkus 2015 Big Top Tour—Bon Appetit. Kids 10-18 are the stars! 1 pm at The Circus Barn. (877) Smirkus. smirkus.org. Through August 15.

LONDONDERRY. Summer Paddle/Hike. Meet 1 pm at Lowell Lake in Londonderry for a paddle and/or hike (3.5 miles) around the lake. Bring your own canoe or kayak if you are paddling. PFD required. Sponsored by the Manchester Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. RSVP to trip leader, Marge Fish at (802) 824-3662 or marge.fish@gmail.com.

MONTPELIER. Central Vermont Cycling Tour. Perhaps the best dirt road ride in New England. Register online at www.centralvtcyclingtour.org or on the day of the event. 9 am. Morse Farm, 1168 County Rd. (802) 498-0079. www.morsefarm.com.

TUNBRIDGE. 15th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Music, classes, workshops. Choose from multi-day or single-day admission. Camping is available. 8 am - 9 pm. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. jennybrookbluegrass.com.

WOODSTOCK. Ice Cream Sundays. Lend a hand making and sampling delicious ice cream at 12:15 & 2:15 p.m. while learning the history and science of this dairy treat. Admission (includes all programs and activities): adults \$14, 62 & over \$13, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, 2 & under free. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org. Also June 14, 21 & 28.

MONDAY, JUNE 29

ORWELL. Children's Revolutionary Morning Camp. Children will enjoy Revolutionary times learning about Mount Independence, with new hands-on activities, walks, and more. Ages 6 to 11. Pre-register. Fee: \$75. 9:30 am - 2:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/MountIndependence. Through July 1.

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

EAST DORSET. Vermont Summer Festival Horse Show. Celebrating its 22nd year as Vermont's premier hunter/jumper competition. See Olympic equestrians participating in events for \$750,000 in prizes. A six-week show on the Beebe Farm on Rt. 7A. (802) 489-4945. www.vt-summerfestival.com. Through August 9.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Learn how to use the atlatl (ancient spear thrower). Children's French Colonial dress-up basket. Open 9:30 am - 5 pm, Wed. - Sun. and Monday Holidays. 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/chimneypoint. May 23 through October 12.

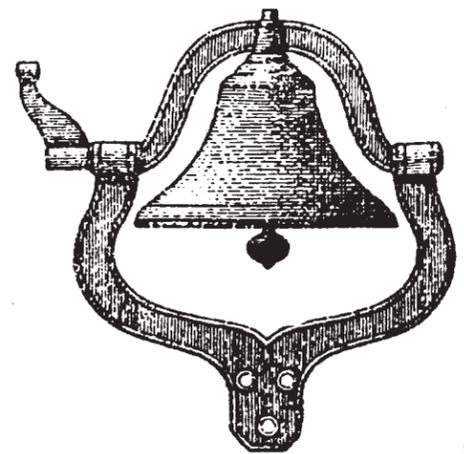
ARLINGTON. Equinox Skyline Drive. An unforgettable drive to the summit of Mount Equinox. Scenic picnic areas. Hiking trails. Visitor's center. Admission: automobiles, \$15 car and driver, \$5 per passenger (under 10 free); motorcycles \$12 bike and driver, no passenger fee. Open 9 am - 5 pm. 42 Skyline Dr. off Rt. 7A. (802) 362-1114. www.equinoxmountain.com. Through October 31.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Battle Monument. Vermont's tallest structure, is open to the public for educational exploration from 9 am to 5 pm daily through Oct. 31. Admission \$3 adults, \$1 children ages six through 14 years. Children under six years and scheduled school groups are free. (802) 447-0550. historicsites.vermont.gov.

BURLINGTON. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Exhibits, workshops, programs, café, gift shop, story hour. Admission: \$9.50 adults, \$7 ages 3-17, \$8 seniors and students, under 3 free. Monday-Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm. At Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, One College St. (877) 324-6385. info@echovermont.org. www.echovermont.org.

GRANITEVILLE. Rock of Ages Visitors Center. Tour our facilities and the quarry. Order custom granite house plates, desk plates and street number plates. Rock of Ages Visitor's Center, 558 Graniteville Rd. (802) 476-3119. rockofages.com. rockofagesgiftshop.com.

HARTLAND. Upper Valley Seed Savers meet on the second Thursday of the month at 5 pm at various member's gardens, through the summer. Our mission is to further knowledge about seed saving and to work on projects that will help develop a body of locally-adapted open-pollinated vegetable seeds. For information, or if you can't come to meetings but would like to receive a monthly email with our minutes which contain information on our projects, please contact Sylvia Davatz at sdav@valley.net or call (802) 436-3262.





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New Harlow Lent Art Exhibit on Display at Café 232 in South Strafford, VT

A new exhibit of paintings by the late artist, Harlow Lent can be viewed May 1 through August 31 at Café 232 in South Strafford, VT.

Mr. Lent moved to South Strafford, Vermont in 1947 following a wartime job as a draftsman at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Corporation. He lived and painted in South Strafford from 1947 to 1993 where he passed away at the age of 86.

He gained a loyal following as a regional artist having shown at several college galleries and at the AVA Gallery in its infancy in Hanover, NH. His career was celebrated with a retro-

spective at the Lebanon, NH AVA Gallery in 1994. Two of his works went on display at the Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville, VT in 2012.

Painting in both oil and watercolor, Lent was a prolific artist with a lifelong passion for painting as a career, which was formally launched after four years of study at the Massachusetts School of Art (now College) in 1931.

Working as a WPA artist in 1938, he created an etching called "Placing the Girders", now at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Great Depression also intervened. Balancing work as a miner and construction

worker, his paintings were mostly figurative in the 1950s with a bent toward social commentary.

The earliest work in this current exhibit is a 1964 watercolor entitled "Levity", expressed with undulating geometric shapes. The 1970 watercolor, "Fractured Wave" is suggestive of cultural influences of the time, especially science, a field that fascinated the artist.

By the late 1980s he preferred acrylics and often mixed them with oil and opaque watercolor. "Symphony", evoking a feeling of sound waves floating through the air, is one of the last paintings created by Harlow Lent who passed away in 1993.

Cafe 232 is located at 232 U.S. Rt. 132 in South Strafford, VT. (802) 765-9232. Visit cafe232.com. Open Wed thru Fri 6-2, Sat 7-2, Sun 8-1, dinners on Thurs & Fri 5-8:30, closed Mon & Tues.

Useful Vermont Websites

Vermont Tourism Site: vermontvacation.com
Vermont State Parks: vtstateparks.com
Green Mountain National Forest: fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl
Discover Vermont Vacations: discoververmontvacations.com
Vermont Outdoor Guide Association: voga.org
Golfing: vtga.org • **Hunting & Fishing:** vtfishandwildlife.com

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Vermont Country Calendar



HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield. Bring your flag to be raised over the Hubbardton Battlefield and receive a certificate. Children's colonial dress-up basket. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under free. 9:30 am - 5 pm. Thursday through Sunday and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. elsa.gilbertson@state.vt.us. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/hubbardton. *May 23 through October 12.*

LUDLOW. Fletcher Farms School for the Arts and Crafts. Vermont's oldest residential arts and crafts school. Register for our arts and crafts classes. Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts, 611 Rt. 103 South. (802) 228-8770. info@fletcherfarm.org. www.fletcherfarm.org.

MANCHESTER. Celebration of Peonies. Come see the peony gardens between late May and mid-June. Admission (includes house, grounds, Pullman car "Sunbeam", and farm) \$18 adults, \$5 youth, children under 6 free. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, south of the village. Call (802) 362-1788. www.hildene.org.

WEST NEWBURY. Eastern Square Dance. Traditional singing squares, waltzes, polkas, foxtrots, two-steps, Virginia Reel, Portland Fancy, Paul Jones, others. All dances taught. With Adam Boyce, fiddler/caller, Donna Weston on piano. Admission by donation, all ages welcome. 7:30 pm at the Community Hall at 219 Tyler Farm Rd. (802) 429-2316 or adamboyce@juno.com. *Fourth Saturdays.*

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. Special exhibit: Mount Independence Depicted. Children's Discovery Corner. Special events. \$5 adults, free for children under 15. Open daily, 9:30 am - 5:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/MountIndependence. *May 23 - October 12.*

PERU. Bromley's Sun Mountain Adventure Park. 22 rides & attractions for everyone. Party on our Sun Deck with great food and drink specials from 5 pm 'til close. At Bromley Mountain Ski Resort, 3984 VT Rt. 11. (802) 824-5522.

PLYMOUTH NOTCH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Adults \$8, children 6 to 14 \$2, under 6 free. Family pass \$25. 9:30 am - 5 pm daily. 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov. *May 23 through October 18.*

PROCTOR. Vermont Marble Museum. Marble Cafe and Gift Shop—enjoy pastries, soups and sandwiches, free wifi, open Tuesday thru Saturday year round from 9 am - 3 pm. Admission: adults \$7, seniors \$5, kids & teens and Proctor residents free. Museum hours, 10 am - 5 pm, seven days a week, May 24 through October 14. Marble Museum, 52 Main St. (802) 459-2750. www.vermontmarblegifts.com.

PROCTOR. Wilson Castle Guided Historic Tours. Daily 9 am - 5 pm. Adults \$10; children ages 6-12, \$6; ages 6 and under free. Wilson Castle, 2708 West St. (802) 773-3284. www.wilsoncastle.com. *Through mid-October.*

RUPERT. Merck Forest and Farmland. Camping, cabins, trails, farm, workshops and seasonal events. Visitor's Center and store with certified organic maple syrup, our own 100% wool blankets, and more. Open year round, dawn to dusk. 3270 Rt. 315, west of Manchester. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Himalayan Salt Cave. Come relax in the only public Himalayan Salt Cave in North America. Mon-Fri 10 am - 7 pm, Sat & Sun 10 am - 6 pm. \$12. Pyramid Holistic Wellness Center, 120 Merchants Row. For reservations call (802) 775-8080. www.pyramidvt.com.

WEST RUTLAND. Vermont Herbal General Store. Owned and operated by a registered pharmacist. Tai' Chi Gung classes, Tuesdays at 5 pm at the store and Saturdays at 8 am at Best Western, Rt. 4, Rutland. Free intro classes. Usul & Karuna Reiki Healings & Classes. Handmade Herbal Medicines, Oils, Essences, Crystals, Gemstones & Books. Teas, Lotions, and Capsules. All are welcome. Open Tuesday & Wednesday 1-6, Thursday-Saturday 12-6, Sunday 1-4, closed Friday. Vermont Herbal General Store, 578 Main St. (802) 438-2766. info@vermontherbal.com. On Facebook and Twitter. www.vermontherbal.com.

WINDSOR. Cider Hill Gardens & Art Gallery. Open May-June 10 am - 6 pm daily; July-October Thursday-Sunday 10 am - 5 pm daily. At 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. ciderhillgardens.com. garmylek.com.

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House. Admission: adults \$3, 14 and under free. Open weekends and Monday holidays, 11 am - 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 Main St. (802) 672-3773. www.historicsites.vermont.gov/constitution. *May 23 through October 12.*

WINDSOR. Stuffed Animal Repair. Sue Spear, stuffed animal repair specialist, will fix up stuffed friends. Free. 6-8 pm. Windsor Public Library, 43 State St. (802) 674-2556. *Each Wednesday.*

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park. 20 miles of trails and carriage roads are open year-round. Gardens and mansion. Vermont's only national park. Guided tours \$4/\$8, under 15 free. Walk the grounds free. Visit the Carriage Barn Visitor Center open daily 10 am - 5 pm through October 31. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park, 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368 x 22. nps.gov/mabi.

LATE SPRING FARMERS MARKETS

BENNINGTON. Walloomsac Farmers Markets. Saturdays 10 am - 1 pm and Tuesdays 3:30-5:30 pm at River Walk Park beside Bennington Station. (802) 688-7210. info@walloomsac.org. www.walloomsac.org. On Facebook. *May 2 through the end of October.*

BRATTLEBORO. Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays, 10 am - 2 pm. Rt. 9 near the covered bridge. Tuesdays 10 am - 2 pm on Whetstone Pathway, lower Main St. (802) 254-8885. brattleborofarmersmarket.com.

BURLINGTON. Farmers' Market. Downtown City Hall Park every Saturday 10 am - 2 pm from early spring through autumn. Chris Wagner, (802) 310-5172. info@burlingtonfarmersmarket.org. burlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

DORSET. Dorset Farmers' Market. Sundays from 10 am - 2 pm, outdoors at H.N. Williams Store on Rt. 30. Carol Adinolfi. marketmanager@dorsetfarmersmarket.com. www.dorsetfarmersmarket.com. *May through October.*

GROTON. Groton Growers' Farmers Market. Outdoors on the lawn in front of the Groton Community Building, every Saturday from 9 am - 1 pm, rain or shine. Mary Berlejung and Sandi Adams. (802) 584-3595 or (802) 633-3031. grotongrowers@gmail.com. www.grotongrowers.org. *June through September.*

LUDLOW. Ludlow Farmers' Market. Locally grown produce, prepared foods, crafts, and live entertainment. A very pleasant market. EBT and debit cards. Fridays 4-7 pm. Front lawn of Okemo Mountain School, 53 Main St., Jerry Milligan. (802) 734-3829. lfmkt@tds.net. ludlowfarmersmarket.org. *May 22 through October 9.*

LUNENBURG. Lunenburg Farmers' Market. Local in-season produce, baked items, quality-crafted items. EBT/SNAP benefits accepted from any state and awarded bonus Harvest Health coupons each week. No-fee bank debit purchases also welcome. Every Wednesday, 2-6 pm, on Lunenburg Town Common, on Route 2 in the center of town. (802) 892-1262. lunenburgfarmersmarket.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Summer Farmer's Market. 9 am - 12:30 pm at the North parking lot at the Marbleworks. Jeremy Gildrien & Sharon Kerwin. (802) 989-7223. middleburyfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays May 2 through October 31 and Wednesdays June 17 through October 14.*

MONTPELIER. Montpelier Capital City Summer Farmers' Market. 10 am - 2 pm. 60 State St. For information contact Carolyn Grodinsky (802) 223-2958. manager@montpelierfarmersmarket.com. www.montpelierfarmersmarket.com. *Saturdays May 2 through October 31.*

NORWICH. Norwich Farmers' Summer Market. Saturdays 9 am - 1 pm. Rt. 5 south of town. Steve Hoffman. (802) 384-7447. manager@norwichfarmersmarket.org. norwichfarmersmarket.org. *May 2 through the autumn.*

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. 10 am - 2 pm. Outside at Depot Park by Walmart. (802) 753-7269. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays May 9 through October 24.*

SPRINGFIELD. Springfield Farmer's Market. Produce, cheese, crafts, flowers, plants, greens, baked goods, preserves, artwork and specialty foods. Entertainment. EBT/Food Stamps and Farm to Family Coupons. Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm. In downtown Springfield. (802) 738-5272. springfieldcommunitymarket.com. *Saturdays May 30 through early October.*

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Talks: www.judithirventalks.com



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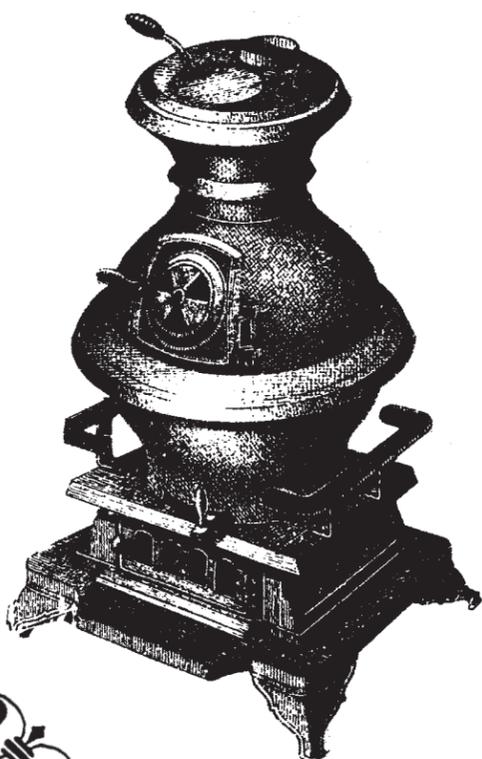
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The Original

Vermont Country Sampler

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Vermont Country Calendar

WINDSOR. The Windsor Farmers Market. Saturdays 11 am – 2 pm on the State Street Green. windsor.vt.farmers.market@gmail.com. *May 30 through October 17.*

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

BARRE. Vermont History Center and Leahy Library. Thousands of books, manuscripts, photographs, maps, audio, video and film recordings. One admission fee for both the Vermont Heritage Galleries in Barre and the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Monday through Friday, 9 am – 4 pm. Vermont Historical Society, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. vermonthistory.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. BF3F—Third Friday Art Walk. 5-8 pm. Flyer available at Village Square Booksellers, 32 The Square. (802) 463-9404. villagesquarebooks.com. *Third Fridays.*

BENNINGTON. The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont. Dolls and dollhouses, puppets, trucks and trains, toys, and educational displays. Museum shop. Admission is \$2 for children three and older, \$4 for adults and \$10 for families. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 pm. 212 Union St. at the corner of Valentine St. (802) 681-3767. www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Center for the Arts. Permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. Admission: adults \$9, seniors & students \$8, families \$20, under 12 are free. Open Wed-Mon, 10 am – 5 pm. Bennington Center for the Arts, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. thebennington.org.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Museum. Exhibit—“Alcohol in Vermont: Creation to Consumption, Tolerance to Temperance”, through June 21. Exhibit: “Laurence Jackson Hyman—The Bennington Years, Photographs 1962-1970”. Also Jonathan Gitelson: “In the World”. Exhibits and programs, founding documents, fine art, and more. See Bennington Pottery, the 1924 Wasp Touring Car, Vermont furniture, and the Bennington Flag—one of America’s oldest flags. Lectures, workshops, concerts, films, and the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students over 18 \$9, children under 18 free. Free admission to the Gift Shop. Open 10 am – 5 pm every day except Wednesdays. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

BRANDON. Compass Music and Arts Center. Arts businesses and studios, classes & workshops, exhibits, concerts, and community events. A gift shop features art and music related books, collectibles, and the music of the classical recording company, Divine Art Records. Onsite café. 10 am – 5 pm Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday through March. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Drive, Park Village, 1.5 miles north of downtown. (802) 247-4295. www.cmactv.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center. New exhibits: “Dialogue—Lindenfeld + Lindenfeld”; “Children of the Oasis”; “Love, Labor, Worship—The People of Basin Farm”; and “Donald Saaf—Contemporary Folk Tales”. Open daily 11-5, closed Tues. Admission \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$4 students, free for youth 18 and under. 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

BRATTLEBORO. First Fridays Gallery Walk. Monthly celebration of the arts in downtown and nearby locations. 40-50 or more exhibit openings, many with meet-the-artist receptions and live music, plus occasional readings, dance, circus arts, theater, and more. Free. 5:30-8:30 pm. (802) 257-2616. gallerywalk.org. *Monthly on first Fridays.*

BURLINGTON. First Friday Art Walk. Visit over 30 galleries, studios, and interesting venues all around town. Free. 5-8 pm. Map available. (802) 264-4839. www.artmapburlington.com. *Monthly on the first Friday.*

CHESTER. 103 Artisans Marketplace. Hand crafted gifts, decorative accessories, small batch Chocolates and Vermont Maple products. Owned by artists Elise & Payne Junker, exclusive showroom of Junker Studio metalwork. Open every day 10 am – 5 pm, closed Tuesday. Located on Rt. 103, south of town—look for the life-size moose! (802) 875-7400. Gallery103.com.

FERRISBURGH. Rokeby Museum. Exhibits, buildings to tour, grounds to explore. Admission \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$8 students, children under 5 free. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby@comcast.net. www.rokeby.org. *Open through October 25.*

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum. One of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets in the world housed in a 100-foot-long converted dairy barn built in 1863. Events and exhibits. Free admission, donations welcome. Bread and Puppet Farm, Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org. *Open by appointment November through May then daily June through October.*

GRAFTON. The Nature Museum at Grafton. Hands-on natural history exhibits, mounted specimens and wildlife garden, nature programs for adults and children, plus tours for schools and community groups. Admission to the Museum is free, donations welcome. Visit www.nature-museum.org for upcoming programs. Open Thursdays from 10 am – 4 pm or by appointment. Open Thursdays and Saturdays 10 am – 4 pm from Memorial Day through Columbus Day. 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org.

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Features over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Museum, special events and bird walks, exhibits, children’s programs, gift shop, video, restrooms and trails with maps available. Admission: adult \$7, senior \$6, child 3-17 \$3.50. Open daily 10 am – 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. www.birdsofvermont.org. *May 1 through October 31.*

MANCHESTER. Southern Vermont Art Center. Galleries, exhibits, classes, performances, gift shop, café, botany trail. Free admission to some exhibits. Open Tues-Sat 10 am – 5 pm. Yester House Galleries, Southern Vermont Arts Center, West Rd. (802) 362-1405. www.svac.org.

MANCHESTER. Visit Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home. Summer home of presidential son, Robert Lincoln. House, gardens, Pullman car, working farm and cheese-making facility, floating boardwalk, walking trails, museum store and welcome center. Admission: \$18 adults, \$5 children 6-14, under 6 free. Open daily 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, just south of the village. (802) 362-1788. www.hildene.org.

MARLBORO. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. See mounted specimens of over 600 native New England birds and mammals, a Raptor Center with live hawks and owls, amphibian and reptile exhibit. Admission: adults \$5, seniors \$3, children 5-12 \$2, kids 4 and under are free. Open 10 am – 4 pm weekdays, 10 am – 5 pm weekends. Rt. 9, Hogback Mountain. (802) 464-0048. vermontmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Middlebury Arts Walk. 30+ locations including artists’ galleries, stores, professional offices and museums. Musicians perform in the town’s outdoor parks. Work on view includes paintings, photography, performances and crafts. 5-7 pm. For details visit www.middleburyartswalk.com. (802) 388-7951. *Second Fridays May through October.*

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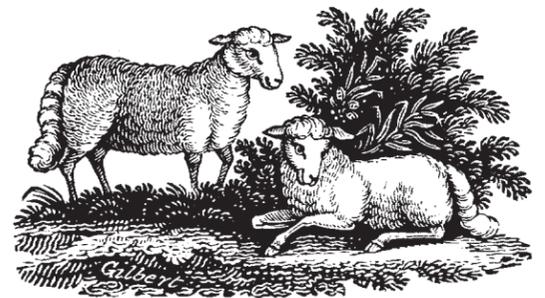
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Vermont Country Calendar

MIDDLEBURY. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. The oldest chartered community history museum in the United States, welcoming visitors since 1882. Admission: adults \$5, youth 6-18 \$3, senior \$4.50, family \$12, under 6 free. Open Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, One Park St. (803) 388-2117. www.henrysheldonmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Vermont Folklife Center. Gallery, archives & research center, programs, and Heritage Shop. Free admission. Open Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Vermont Folklife Center, 88 Main St., (802) 388-4964. info@vermontfolklifecenter.org. www.vermontfolklifecenter.org.

NORWICH. Montshire Museum of Science. Exhibits, trails, programs, and museum store. Open 10 am - 5 pm daily. Admission \$14 adults, \$11 children 2-17, under 2 free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. One Montshire Rd. (802) 649-2200. www.montshire.org.

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Trails, exhibits, live bird programs and animal feeding times. \$11-\$13, under 3 free. 10 am - 5 pm daily. 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000.

READING. Art Exhibits. Outdoor sculpture by Richard Deacon, Olafur Eliasson, and Marc Quinn. Indoor exhibits: Keith Sonnier: Early Neon—sculpture incorporating unconventional and industrial materials; and paintings by Peter Saul. Admission is free. Open weekends and Wednesdays by appointment. Hall Art Foundation, 551 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. www.hallartfoundation.org. *May 9 through November 29.*

RUTLAND. Exhibits, classes, workshops, open studio evenings, gift shop. Gallery open Thursday and Friday 12-6 pm and Saturdays 12-5 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 South Main St. (802) 775-0062. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

RUTLAND. Exhibits, workshops, classes. Open Tuesday-Friday 12-6 pm, and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm. Chaffee Downtown Gallery, 75 Merchants Row. (802) 775-0062. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

SHAFTSBURY. Robert Frost Museum. Features galleries in the house where Frost lived and in the very rooms where he wrote some of his finest poetry. The grounds of the property include stone walls, birch trees, fields and woods and even some of Frost's original apple trees. Admission: adults \$6, seniors (60 plus) \$5, under 18 years old \$3, under 10 years old free. Open 10 am - 5 pm, Wednesday through Sunday, closed Monday and Tuesday. Robert Frost Stone House Museum, 121 Historic Rt. 7A. (802) 447-6200. frostfriends.org. *May 1 through October 31.*

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Museum. Home to the finest museum collections of 19th-century American folk art, quilts, 19th- and 20th-century decoys, and carriages. Admission: adults \$24, Vermont residents \$14, children \$7 (5-12), under 5 free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. shelburnemuseum.org. *May 1 through October 31.*

SHOREHAM. Shoreham Bell Museum. See 5-6,000 bells collected from all over the world. Open most afternoons by appointment or chance year round. Free admission, donations accepted. Shoreham Bell Museum, 127 Smith St. off Rt. 74 west. For information call Judy Blake at (802) 897-2780. www.shorehambellmuseum.com.

SO. STRAFFORD. Mixed Media Works by Late Artist Harlow Lent. On exhibit in Cafe 232. The paintings, completed from 1990-1992 incorporate oil and acrylic on foil and can be viewed during café hours. Free wifi. Cafe 232, 232 Rt. 132, (802) 765-9232. (802) 885-6156. www.nlwatercolor.com. cafe232.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts from over 125 local and regional artists and craftsmen. Exhibits, classes, workshops. 6th Tuesday - Saturday 11 am - 5 pm. 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium. Admission: adults \$8, seniors and children under 17 \$6, under 5 free. Winter hours: Tues-Sat 9 am - 5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. www.fairbanksmuseum.org

ST. JOHNSBURY. The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Free. Summer hours: Monday - Saturday 10 am - 5 pm, Sunday 11 am - 4 pm. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. www.dogmt.com. *May 1 through October 31.*

WEST RUTLAND. Carving Studio and Sculpture Center Gallery. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 am - 1 pm, or by appointment. 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. info@carvingstudio.org. carvingstudio.org.

WOODSTOCK. ArtisTree Community Art Center. Exhibits, classes, music, special events. Tues 11 am - 8 pm, Wed-Sat 11 am - 4 pm. Mount Tom Building, 1206 Rt. 12. (802) 457-3500. info@artistreevt.org. www.artistreevt.org.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Open for the season starting May 1. Visit the Jersey herd, draft horses, oxen, and sheep and tour the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House. Admission: adults \$14, age 62 & up \$13, children ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org.

HORSEBACK RIDING & WAGON RIDES

CHITTENDEN. Mountain Top Equestrian Center. Open daily for all riding abilities, English & Western. One, two and three hour trail rides from May through October. Lessons Mid-June through Labor Day. Children's Horsemanship Camp July & August. 40 miles of trails, two outdoor arenas, cross country jumping course. Friday and Sunday Specials. Mountain Top Inn & Resort, 195 Mountain Top Rd. Reservations required: (802) 483-2311. www.mountaintopinn.com.

LANDGROVE. Karl Pfister Horse-Drawn Wagon and Carriage Rides. Prices: \$20 adult, \$10 children under 12, under 2 free. Private rides are \$120 for 1-4 people, \$180 for 5-12 people. Rides leave on the hour from Landgrove Inn, Landgrove Rd. off Rt. 11. Call for reservations. (802) 824-4663. www.karlpfistersleigh.com.

LONDONDERRY. Wagon Rides at Taylor Farm. Wagons run 11 am - 6 pm every hour on the hour Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Prices: \$20 for everyone over age 7, \$10 for ages 7-2, under 2 free; private rides \$150 for 1-5 people, \$200 for 6-10 people. Mid-week private rides available on request with advance notice. Taylor Farm, 825 Rt. 11. By reservation only, call (802) 824-5690. www.taylorfarmvermont.com.

WILMINGTON. Scenic Horseback Trail Rides. \$25/40 minutes. Children over 6 can ride alone. Year round seven days a week by reservation. Flames Stables, Rt. 100 south. (802) 464-8329.

RECREATION & NATURE CENTERS

BELLOWS FALLS. Bellows Falls Fish Ladder Visitor Center. A naturalist educator will lead hands-on environmental programs each weekend. Learn more about the Connecticut River watershed, the salmon and other fish that use the fish ladder, and the river's many plants and animals. The Visitor Center seeks to inspire stewardship of the Connecticut River and all our local waterways. The Nature Museum operates the Visitor Center on behalf of TransCanada Corp., owner of the fish ladder and the hydroelectric facility in Bellows Falls. Admission and programs are free. 10 am - 4 pm. Bellows Falls Fish Ladder Visitor Center, Bridge St. www.nature-museum.org/Fish-Ladder.html. *Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.*

MONTPELIER. North Branch Nature Center. Programs and workshops, hikes, bird counts. 713 Elm Street. (802) 229-6206. chip@northbranchnaturecenter.org. northbranchnaturecenter.org.

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science Nature Center. Exhibits, programs, nature trail, live bird programs and animal feeding time, nature store. Admission: adults \$13, seniors \$12, youth (4-17) \$11. 10 am - 5 pm. VINS Nature Center, 6565 Woodstock Rd., Rt. 4, 1/4 mile west of Quechee Gorge. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org.

RUPERT. Merck Forest and Farmland. Camping, cabins, trails, farm, workshops and seasonal events. Visitor's Center and store with certified organic maple syrup, our own 100% wool blankets, and more. Help with animal chores Saturdays 2-4 pm. Open year round, dawn to dusk. 3270 Rt. 315, west of Manchester. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Farms. Welcome Center, Farm and Farm Store. Open year round 10 am - 5 pm. Enjoy eight miles of walking trails in woodlands and meadows. Walkers, check in with the Welcome Center. Admission. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. www.shelburnefarms.org.

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park. Trails, carriage roads, gardens and a mansion at Vermont's only national park. Admission: \$4 or \$8, under 15 free. Walk the grounds for free. Guided tours, reservations available. 10 am - 5 pm daily. 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368. www.nps.gov/mabi/index.htm.



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The Rochester Chamber Music Society opens their twenty-first season in the White River Valley offering a tantalizing variety of programming. Music lovers throughout the state have discovered RCMS concerts are a perfect destination for a rewarding outing in central Vermont. We hope you can join us in the mountains for intimate chamber music performed by world-class musicians.

Freewill donations are gratefully accepted. The concert series is sponsored in part by the Institute for Clinical Science and Art.

Sunday, June 21. Peter Stumpf, cellist. Bach Suite in C minor, Dutilleux Trois Strophes, Bach Suite in D major. Concert 4 p.m. at the Rochester Federated Church

Saturday, July 11. Seventeenth Annual Bach Bash. Professional and amateur musicians celebrate the music of Bach and others. 7 p.m. at the Granville Town Hall, 4157 VT Route 100, Granville, VT.

Sunday, July 12. Baroque to Jazz. Julia Salerno and

Sarah Whitney, violins. Tele- mann, Bartok, Kenji Bunch, Mikos Rosza, Igudesman, Mark Summer. Concert 4 p.m. at the Rochester Federated Church

Friday, July 24. Heliand Trio with soprano, Mary Bonhag. Schubert, Mendelssohn, Rorem, HyeKyung Lee's "Dreaming in Colours" for bassoon and piano, commissioned piece by Padma Newsome for soprano, clarinet, bassoon, piano. Concert at 7:30 p.m. Rochester Federated Church.

Sunday, August 9. Best of Baroque. Vivaldi, The Four Seasons, Bach Concerto in D minor for harpsichord. Katherine Winterstein, violin; Letitia Quanto, violin; Jane Kittredge, violin; Diouweke Davydov, cello; Evan Premo, double bass; Cynthia Huard, harpsichord. Concert 4 p.m. at the Rochester Federated Church.

The Rochester Federated Church is located at 15 N. Main St. in Rochester, VT.

For more information call (802) 767-9234 or visit www.rcmsvt.org.

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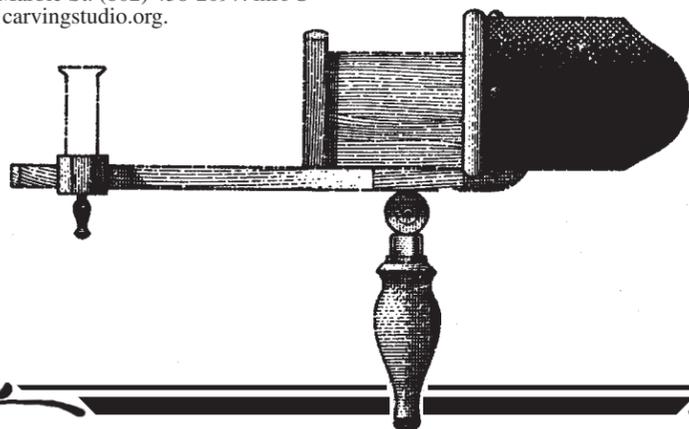
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North Country Reflections

Planting a New Flower Bed

by Judith Irven

We have all seen pictures in garden magazines of stunning flower beds full of gorgeous plants, and these same magazines often have useful design suggestions about how to choose and combine these plants in pleasing ways.

But generally not much information is provided about the practical details of how to actually establish a flower bed in the garden—how to prepare the soil and how to get the plants into the ground and off to a good start. So let's take a look at the practicalities for installing a new garden bed from scratch.

Getting started

If you don't have one already, it is really helpful to make a scale drawing that shows the shape of the bed and the positioning of the various plants you want to use. A scale of either 1/4" = 1 foot or 1/8" = 1 foot works well for this purpose.

Ideally your new bed will contain some shrubs, and possibly a couple of smaller trees like crab apples, which together will create the backbone of the design. Then fill in around these with lots of perennials to provide a ground layer of color throughout the season.

Since the plants at the nursery are quite small compared with their mature size, it can be difficult to visualize how everything will look after five or ten years. Having a plan will ensure that your plants are properly spaced for their long term health. It will also show you how many plants you need to buy to achieve your design.

Show each plant as a circle that represents both its position in the bed and its mature size. The goal is to create a full and interesting design where, as they reach full size, the plants will slightly overlap. Juggle your plants around on the paper until you find something you like.

Remove the weeds and improve the soil

Before you start planting it is critical to get rid of all the existing grass and perennial weeds and then add compost to improve the soil.

If you are making your new bed where you currently have lawn, skim off the top few inches of soil including the grass and compost it for future use. (Avoid the temptation to use a rototiller as grass roots will remain in the soil, only to re-sprout later.)

If are adding to an existing bed carefully turn the soil with a garden fork and remove all visible weed roots. For weeds with long roots, like dandelions, be sure to remove the entire root.

If you don't mind waiting until the fall before you plant, another alternative is to smother the entire area with black plastic or cardboard. You can cover the area with mulch to make it look better while you are waiting! By the fall most of the weeds should have been killed off by a combination of heat and lack of light.

Improve the soil

Thoroughly dig the entire bed to a depth of about nine inches to loosen the soil and remove any large rocks. This is also best done manually rather than with a rototiller (which tends to leave a solid layer of hardpan soil under the tilled layer).

Now add plenty of compost—at least two inches deep over the entire bed and dig it into the top few inches of soil. Whether your soil is clay or sandy, compost will create im-



photo by Dick Conrad

Carefully spaced shrubs take hold in a newly planted bed at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. Low-growing perennials will soon be planted to fill the spaces between them.

prove its workability and aeration which in turn promotes strong root growth.

You can use your own compost or you can purchase a composted manure product (such as Moo-doo), preferably in bulk rather than bagged. However avoid fresh manure which usually contains viable weed seeds.

Install edging

Edging helps to prevent lawn grasses from encroaching back into the beds and, over the long run, will be a significant time-saver. Look for 5"-high plastic edging in convenient 60' rolls. Install it so that the beaded top is just at ground level; once the bed is mulched it will be almost invisible.

Mulch

After preparing the soil, cover the whole area with a light layer of mulch. Start by spreading several layers of newspaper over everything to stop light from reaching the soil and prevents weed seeds from germinating. Now add a couple of inches of organic material, such as ground bark mulch, which will help to keep the soil moist. (Bark mulch can often be obtained in bulk from local lumberyards.)

However landscape cloth does not make a good mulch for flower beds. As the plants grow, their roots become entangled in the fabric which then becomes really difficult to remove. And also avoid black plastic which, after a few years, will disintegrate into long shreds in your soil.

Planting

Always choose good quality stock from a reputable nursery and plant your new plants as soon as possible after bringing them home. Position them on the bed, shrubs first, and then perennials, according to your plan and then fine tune the spacing.

You can buy plants from a nursery in two ways: where the plant is grown entirely in a plastic container (container-grown) or where the rootball and surrounding soil is encased with burlap (B&B).

Before you dig the hole for a new plant, it helps to pull the bark mulch to one side but you can dig right through the newspaper.

For either a container-grown and a B&B plant, measure the height of the rootball and then dig your hole the same height as the rootball (no deeper) but dig it at least twice as wide.

For container grown plants, cut off the container and then gently scruff and tease out any roots that are encircling the outside. Place the root mass in the hole and fan the loose roots outwards in the hole. Gradually backfill with soil keeping the roots in an outward position. The goal is to encourage the new roots to grow outwards into the surrounding soil.

For balled-and-burlapped trees or shrubs, first place the intact root ball in the hole. Next cut the burlap and wire basket away from the sides of the root ball. However it is all right to leave a little burlap or parts of the basket wire at the bottom of the hole.

If you are planting a tree, locate the root flare, which is the place where the trunk widens as it connects into the root system. It is critical that, after planting, the root flare will be at—or even slightly above—ground level. If necessary you can add soil under the ball to raise it up in the hole.

Finally, check the root flare area for any signs of roots that are growing in a circle around the trunk—these are known as girdling roots and they will eventually strangle the tree as it grows. If you find any girdling roots carefully cut them right off at the trunk.

Water thoroughly

Diligent watering of all your new plants throughout the first season will ensure they get off to a good start.

After each plant is in its hole, add some of the soil; then add enough water to completely fill the hole. Wait for the water to soak in, and then fill the hole with the remaining soil, gently tamping it around the root ball. Now make a depression in the soil around the outside of the plant to hold water close to roots of your new tree or shrub and water it once more. Reposition the mulch over the soil, but keep it away from the trunk or stem of your new plants.

Unless it rains heavily, be sure to water your new plants thoroughly every week throughout the summer.

Judith Irven and her husband Dick Conrad live in Goshen, VT where together they nurture a large garden. You can subscribe to Judith's blog about her Vermont gardening life at www.northcountryreflections.com. Dick Conrad is a landscape and garden photographer; to see his photographs go to www.northcountryimpressions.com

Transactions

Rhubarb leafstalks
Cupped at the base
Catch drops of dew
To grow tall on
And feed us.

Goldfinches gather
Milkweed down
To line the nest
Where soon they'll feed
Their young.

Thimbles of dew,
Beakfuls of down—
On such transactions
Thrives a nice
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—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT 1976

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Revels North celebrates the Summer Solstice in Norwich, VT. This year the Solstice is on June 20.

photo courtesy of Revels North

Revels North

The Summer Revels

A Celebration of the Summer Solstice

The Norwich Green will transform into Sherwood Forest on Saturday, June 20th as Revels North presents its annual Summer Revels.

Step back in time as we weave a tale featuring Robin Hood, Maid Marian and the Merry Folk! Our heroes are trying to put on a festival to celebrate the trees in the forest, and we need our audience members to help them elude the dastardly Sheriff of Nottingham.

This free, family-friendly event will feature choral and community singing, dancing, toe-tapping fiddles, giant puppet, dancing around the Maypole, and a Mummer's play.

The Green opens at 5:30 p.m. with craft activities throughout the grounds and roving performers. Food stalls will offer various foods for purchase (with proceeds to benefit Revels North), or families may bring a picnic meal to enjoy. The performance begins at dusk, around 7:15 p.m.

The Summer Revels is an excellent opportunity for community members to participate in a Revels North production. Backstage volunteers are welcome to help—inquire at volunteers@revelsnorth.org.

Singers of all ages and abilities are welcome to join the adult, teen, and chil-

dren's choruses; fiddlers who would like to draw their bows are invited to join the cast. There is no audition. To view the rehearsal schedule, for more information, and to register, visit revelsnorth.org/summerrevels.

Revels North is a nonprofit arts organization providing year round, multigenera-

tional programming which celebrates the power of traditional song, dance, storytelling and ritual.

The Green in Norwich, VT is located on Main St. For more information contact (866) 556-3083. info@revelsnorth.com. revelsnorth.org/summer-revels.

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Free Rides on the Farm

by Burr Morse

I had been communicating with my email buddy Don Friesen from Thomas, Oklahoma. Don has written his memoirs and I, lover of reading about other people's lives, said "I want to read 'em". I was immediately captivated by his farm beginnings in Thomas, beginnings not unlike my very own right here in East Montpelier. His vivid description of his youthful experiences with the Friesen family's dairy cows spiked my interest quicker'n the shake of Bessie's tail on a hot summer day. He writes:

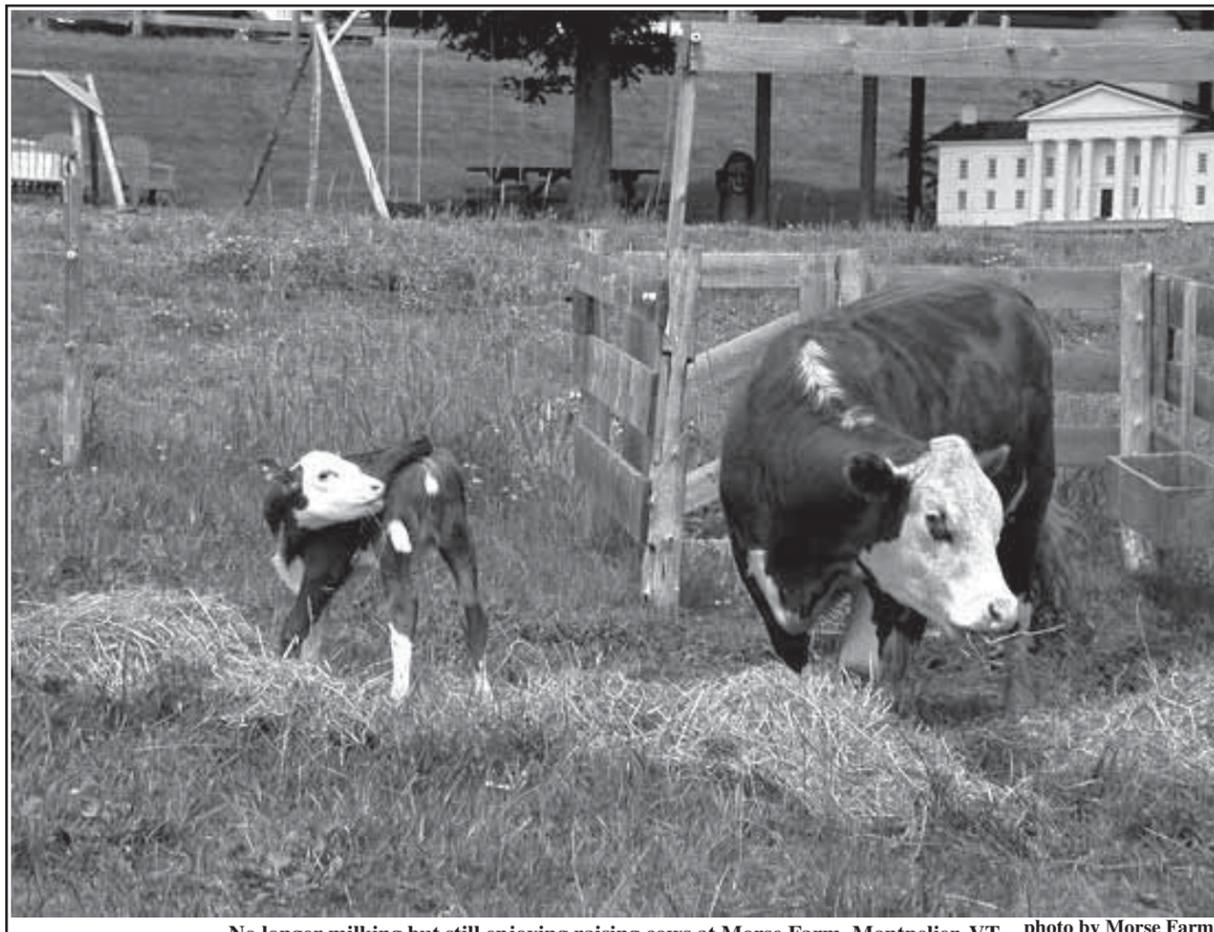
"One of our chores was to go get the cattle each evening for milking. It was great fun to grab a cow's tail when going up a creek bank to keep from having to climb it. However, we were careful to not let dad catch us doing this, because it caused the cows to run and this was bad for giving milk.

His description of the "tail-grabbing" experience brought me right back to 1960 and a twelve-year-old bringin' in our cows for night milking. Just like Don, the temptation was

"I had rounded the herd up when a sudden impulse found me launching myself up onto Daisy's back."

there for me to get a free ride off those huge gentle critters. My interest, though, was more than a cheap tow—I wanted to "ride-'em-cowboy"! Yup, the temptation to hop aboard always dangled in front of me like a tall glass of whole milk and milk, or lack thereof, was what made me learn to keep my secret from my dad as well.

My first ride was on Daisy, our top milker who didn't have a nervous bone in her blond Jersey body. I had gone out to the day pasture, rounded the herd up, and was nudging them back toward the barn when a sudden impulse found me launching myself up onto Daisy's back. The gentle beast looked back as if to say "you sure you want to do this?", but just kept trudging along. When the herd reached the barn entrance, my dad was there, arms crossed with a stern look on his face...



No longer milking but still enjoying raising cows at Morse Farm, Montpelier, VT. photo by Morse Farm

"Burr" he said, "you didn't know but what you're doing can scare these cows and when cows get scared, they give less milk." He went on to explain that "milk" was what paid the bills and fed our family and if I ever did it again he'd have to punish me.

I went on to take a few more cow rides, most of them bucking bronco style—the average milk cow has no patience for boys hopping aboard. Although Dad might have guessed about some of my sudden bumps and bruises, he never let on that he knew about any of those subsequent rides!

We are not riding or milking, but we still enjoy them!

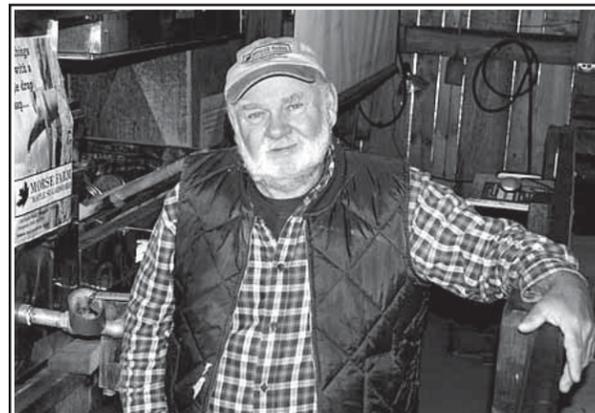
Don Friesen also wrote about being squirted in the eye with milk from a cow's teat, another farm boy caper that's older'n our hillside pastures. The universal introduction: "Hey c'mere—see that star in the end of the teat? Come closer, you can see it better." When some naive soul gets close enough, a sudden squeeze sends a healthy squirt of milk right into the bloke's eye! Another version of this trick can be done with a grub burrowed into a cow's back. Once the farm boy gets his unsuspecting target at point blank range, he squeezes the furry bump and out shoots a very slimy projectile. It always brought out an intense "EEEEewwww" from the girls I was trying to impress. No wonder I was a late bloomer in the love department!

Don sure stirred my nostalgia with his mention of not only these pranks but things like one legged milking stools, torturous turning of cream separators, and building "tunnels, caves, mazes and hiding places" up in the hay mow. Sometimes hard days on our farm bring that age-old question to

this sixty-six year old—why did I choose this life? After a dose of Don's nostalgia and a good night's sleep, however, I always wake up ready for another day as a farmer.

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East Thetford VT

Strawberry Festival at Cedar Circle Farm

Sunday, June 28

The Strawberry Festival at Cedar Circle Farm the last Sunday in June offers the community a chance to celebrate the short, but much-anticipated strawberry season at Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center in East Thetford, VT.

Pack up the kids and come to the farm on Sunday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to enjoy this special event, rain or shine! Now in its thirteenth year, the Strawberry Festival offers fun for the whole family with kids' activities, storytelling, live music, horse-drawn wagon rides, strawberry picking, and an organic Good Food Concession.

All sorts of entertainment

Children's activities include award-winning juggler Tony Duncan from Nimble Arts Productions in Brattleboro, VT. Storyteller/musicians the Swing Peepers will be making their Strawberry Festival debut in the Circle of Cedars Enchanted Forest playing three sets throughout the day. Live music will also feature two great Upper Valley bands: Hawk Mountain with Samantha Moffat from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and The Crunchy Western Boys from 1 to 3 p.m.

Lots of delicious food

Be sure to arrive hungry! Lunch and the dessert line will open at 10:30 a.m. with a delicious, farm-fresh meals prepared by Alison and her crew in the kitchen. The strawberry-showcasing menu includes local grilled sausages or gluten-free Vermont Bean Crafters bean burgers, plus an assortment of salads including a green salad with our own strawberry vinaigrette. Dessert options include our famous strawberry shortcake or low-sugar strawberry popsicles for kids. NOFA's mobile oven is back by popular demand, too, serving delicious wood-fired pizza all day. The farmstand and coffee shop are also open.

For the good of all

"We love sharing our passion for delicious organic food and we want the public to learn more about how important it is to grow food in a way that nurtures the land. The festival is for the whole community to come together to celebrate the bounties of the soil" stated CCF's manager Kate Dueterberg.

Raffle tickets will be sold to raise funds for CSA shares for limited income Vermonters through the Farm Share Program subsidized by NOFA-VT and Cedar Circle Farm. The Strawberry Festival is a "Green Event" with a waste recovery station, which has yielded only two bags of trash for more than 1500 visitors in previous years. Bring a plate, utensils and cup to help reduce waste.

Parking is available in designated fields for \$10 per car,



Kimberly Grant Photography

Flocks of kids picking bunches of ripe red strawberries at Cedar Circle Farm in East Thetford, VT.

and carpooling is encouraged. Come by bicycle or on foot and get in free!

Cedar Circle Farm is a forty-acre certified organic farm, dedicated to "growing for a sustainable future" through the production of certified organic vegetables and berries, bedding plants, and quality flowers and herbs. The farm offers a CSA program, harvest festivals, gardening workshops, cooking classes, and guided educational farm tours.

Cedar Circle Farm is located on Pavillion Rd. along the Connecticut River, just off of Rt. 5 in East Thetford, VT. For details and directions, visit www.CedarCircleFarm.org or call the farm at (802) 785-4737.



Wild Strawberries

Someday I shall not go upon the hill
where they grow hot and sweet;
someday I shall not eat my fill
nor stoop beneath the beat
of June's warm sun upon my back!
Someday I shall not thread
my narrow way up the small path that's black
as the deep, sunless bed
the brook makes, in the hemlock gloom!
Someday I shall not stop to rest
beside the gentle plume
of birches I have loved the best!
No matter, when I shall not climb the hill,
forever, ever, I shall taste them still!

—FRANCES STOCKWELL LOVELL

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North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

June is Bustin' Out All Over!

This is an enchanting time of year outside: spectacular sunsets, rainbows, night skies lit up with fireflies, and the sounds of katydids, hoot owls, peepers, and sometimes coyotes.

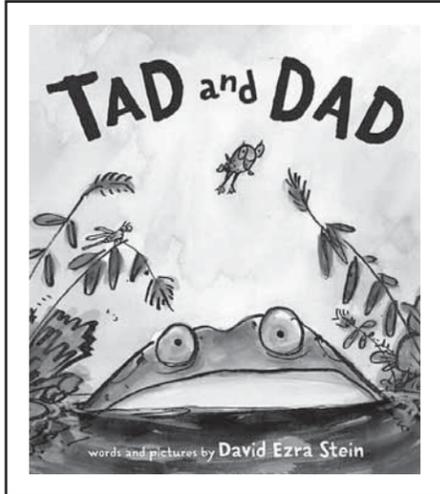
But after reading *When the Sky Is Like Lace* by Elinor Lander Horowitz and illustrated by Barbara Cooney (*Islandport Press, \$17.95, www.islandportpress.com*), you'll be looking, too, for the purple-plum sky of an enchanting 'bimulous' night.

We learn that such a night doesn't happen often, but when it does, otters sing all night long; sulking snails march down to the grove to watch the trees dance and the grass smells like gooseberry jam. The food for that special night is spaghetti with pineapple sauce. You'll meet the heroines of this story—three little girls who cook, eat and share their spaghetti with the otters, snails, and some rabbits, as well as enjoy other other-world adventures. Such a story deserves fantastic illustrations, and there they are—an unforgettable feast for the eyes. Artist Barbara Cooney (1917-2000), who lived much of her life in Maine, was declared a Living Treasure of the State of Maine in 1996. The book was named The New York Times Outstanding Book of the Year when it was first published in 1975. You and your children will agree.

This season brings us a welcoming variety of flowers covering the landscape. See how many you can name for each letter of the alphabet. With the help of this beautifully illustrated guide—*The Flower Alphabet Book* by Jerry Pallotta and illustrated by Leslie Evans (*Charlesbridge Publishing, \$7.95 paper, www.charlesbridge.com*), you should do quite well from A to Z starting with the trumpet-shaped Amaryllis and ending with Z for Zinnia. In between there are easy ones like Crocus, Daffodil, Iris, Pansies, and Tulips. Some new ones for us were Kangaroo Paw; Unicorn Root originating in South Africa; and Yucca whose petals are used today in soups and salads. The artist also gives notes on each flower. For example: for Hollyhock we learned children in olden days used the flower to make dolls with buds for the head

and petals turned upside down for little skirts. Maybe some children still do.

The new baseball season has started and fans already have their favorite players. In *The Baseball Player and the Walrus* by Ben Loory and illustrated by Alex Latimer (*Dial Books for Young Readers, \$17.99, www.penguin.com*), you'll meet a star player, who although successful, was lonely and knows something is missing from his life. One day he goes to the zoo and becomes enthralled by a walrus. He just has to have one! He makes a home for the walrus with a pool, and all the right foods. But he finds he can't be both a baseball player, away on the road a lot and a companion to the walrus. He gives up baseball, but soon goes broke, and the walrus goes back to the zoo. Unhappy ending? No, you'll see—things work out and you will even see him teaching the walrus to play ball.



Father's Day may be a time to appreciate and honor one's dad, but what if you are a fast-growing tadpole whose father is a giant bull frog, sometimes a little too grumpy when you, the junior, won't leave him alone day or night. In *Tad and Dad* by David Ezra Stein (*Nancy Paulsen Books, Penguin Group, \$16.99, www.penguin.com*), the two frogs go about their daily and nightly ventures, but we see it is becoming more and more stressful for both of them as the tadpole becomes a frog. Dad may shoosh the bratty son away for only so long before he finds he really needs his company—at least at night on a their lily-pad bed. The humorous illustrations assure us that this is no quiet mill pond most of the time!

Author David Ezra Stein has received a Caldecott Honor Award and the Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Award, among others. This book shows why.

When families move into a new home they usually wait until early summer when school is over. But when you moved to your new home, what would you do if you found a large sheep dog just sitting in the yard? A dog wasn't supposed to come with the house. What to do? Find out what one family does in the thoughtful and touching *He Was There From The Day We Moved In* by Rhoda Levine with illustrations by Edward Gorey (*New York Review Books Children's Collection, \$14.95, www.nyrb.com*). The family does their best to make the dog welcome, but he just sits in the yard and won't even come in from the rain. The children decide that what the dog really needs is a name, but their efforts are in vain, and the disappointed dog moves a little further away to the edge of the garden. And the story ends: "You know. I think we're bound to find the right name sooner or later. I, myself, am still working on the whole thing. He is waiting; I am thinking. We're both trying. And, like my mother always says, that's about the best anyone can do..."

Author Rhoda Levine has written seven children's books and is a director and choreographer. Artist Edward Gorey (1925-2000) published many acclaimed books and illustrated countless others for children and adults. This story is one of two that he illustrated for Rhoda Levine. Lucky us!



Book Reviews

Summer Garden Time is Here!

Now that the danger of an early frost is over we're all ready to plant tomatoes and other vegetables which thrive on warm, sunny days. A sure favorite for most of us are tomatoes, whose sun-ripe flavor right-off-the-vine is what we've missed since last fall.

One of the best ways to succeed with tomatoes came be found in *Epic Tomatoes—How to Select & Grow the Best Varieties of All Time* by Craig LeHoullier (*Storey Publishing, \$19.95, www.storey.com*).

For over 30 years the author has tried more than 1,200 varieties of tomatoes and introduced his own Anna Russian and Cherokee Purple to the gardening world. In this cyclopedic 250-page book you will find everything you'll need to know about growing tomatoes and you will feast on the large colored photos of tomatoes, pictured whole and cut in half so you can see how they look inside. Tasty, for sure.

His 10 favorites are Yellow Oxheart, Polish, Green Giant, Sun Gold, Lucy Cross, Yellow Heirloom, Brandywine, Cherokee Purple and Mexico Midget. Choose also from a list of 250 recommendations by their color: red, pink, purple, brown, yellow, orange, white, green, multicolor and striped. Each tomato also is defined by shape, size, season, growth pattern, hybrid or open-pollinated seed and flavor.

Readers can learn about the history of tomatoes, seed-saving, diseases, heirloom varieties, and even recipes for salsa, roasted tomato sauce and gazpacho.

Our experience with tomatoes began when my brother Fred and I grew them in a Victory Garden during World War II. I can still remember by father's mother, a city dweller, going into our garden with salt and pepper shakers to eat them right off the vine.

If you ever wanted to grow fruit trees, but felt you didn't have enough space, or were put off because pruning them seemed like too scary a proposition, then *Grow a Little Fruit Tree—Simple Pruning Techniques for Small-Space, East Harvest Fruit Trees* by Ann Ralph (*\$16.95, Storey Publishing, www.storey.com*), is the perfect book for you.

You will learn the key to little fruit tree techniques is making an initial drastic pruning cut at planting time: "Prune your tree. Make it handsome. You can afford to lose some fruiting spurs." The author takes you step by step to selecting the right varieties of fruit trees, planting instructions, watering care, and dealing with diseases and pests. Her trees for your small backyard orchard include apples, apricots, figs, cherries, peaches, plums, nectarines, pears, persimmons and pomegranates.

The author is a fruit tree specialist with 20 years of nursery experience. This book is laid out in an attractive and appealing manner, much as we envision her picturesque orchard of small fruit trees must be. Each chapter has an appropriate quote. We liked E.B. White's "A good farmer is nothing more nor less than a handyman with a sense of humor."

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Vermont

An Outsider's Inside View

Photographs by Edward L. Rubin

(Fine Arts Press)

When photographer Edward Rubin first traveled from Los Angeles to Montpelier in 1998 as production designer for an independent film called "Mud Season," he became intrigued with Vermont's down-to-earth people and its natural beauty.

That film was about a backwoods hunter who falls in love with a Chinese woman immigrant who is fleeing male oppressors. One of his animal traps had accidentally ensnared her.

We learn that Elliot Morse of East Montpelier befriended Rubin and the film crew and they remain close friends to this day. Rubin writes:

"He helped us find a stuffed moose head, built animal traps, trained a turkey to pop its head out of a box on cue, coordinated with local police for road closures, asked his neighbors to let us film in their barns, and provided us with bottles of maple syrup... Elliott's branch of the Morse family had been in Vermont for eight generations. I never met anyone like him."

Photographs of Elliot and wife Florence and son Andy are the very first photographs he took for this book. And he adds: "They are the ones who, through their friendship and open-hearted kindness, first started showing me—a stranger—an insider's view of Vermont."

Assisted by his partner, poet Sam Ambler, Rubin took 2000 photographs in color and black and white for the book's final collection of 200 images. Rubin shot them digitally using Nikon D5100 and Canon G-12 cameras.

His next opportunity to return to Vermont was in 2001 for another independent film about a giant hailstorm in Rutland entitled "Frozen Impact." Many of us had our vehicles and roofs pummeled by quite a hailstorm this past winter, but Rubin said the man-made hailstones used in the film were the size of tennis balls! He recalls 10,000 were fired out of cannons and then swept up for the next shoot.

Rubin began his long creative career earning a degree in architecture from the University of California, Berkeley, but didn't pursue that and instead studied painting, drawing, etching and lithography before earning still another degree in set designing for the theater.

His talents earned him six Emmy nominations for Art Direction, including a win for Disney's "Cinderella." Other nominations included Disney's "Annie," "Return to Halloween-town," and "American Horror Story."

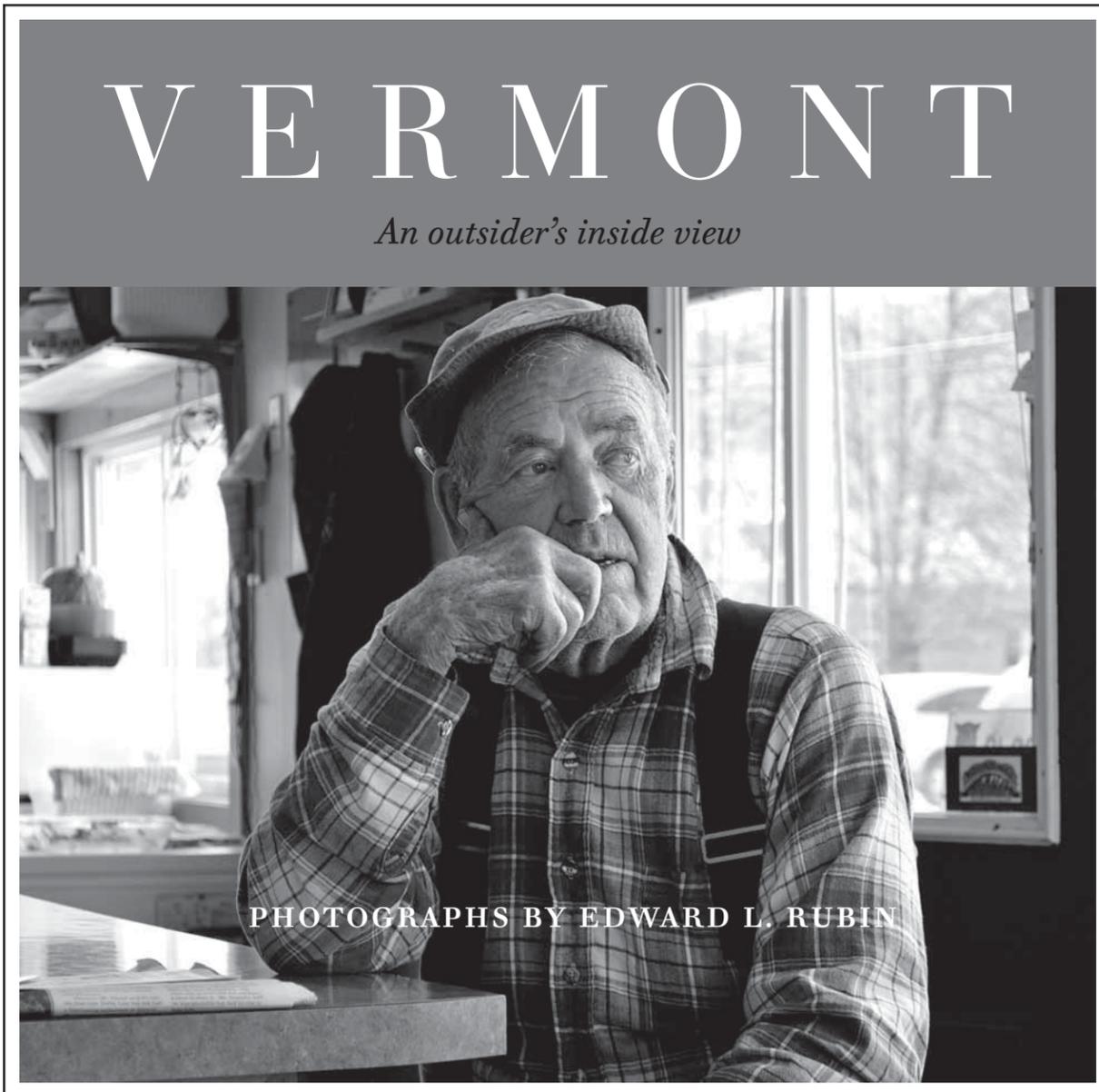
His initial interest in architecture and design shows up in the many photographs of buildings in the book (some you will recognize) shown capturing line, form and dimension in stark clarity. Ones that impressed us were Balconies in East Barre; Row Houses in Montpelier; Alley in Burlington; Building Facades, Montpelier; Alley, Montpelier; and an awe-inspiring look inside the Old West Church, Calais, where nothing has changed since it was built in 1823.

Little knowing his career would turn to photography, Rubin, then a successful fine artist, had been taking pictures

of scenes that he would later transform into paintings. The reader will notice that a remarkable number of his photographs look like oil paintings or pastel illustrations. Particularly beautiful are A View From Sibley Road, East Montpelier; The Winooski River in Plainfield; Molly's Pond in Cabot; Williamstown, noted for its Federal-style churches—"a pleasure to the eye"; and Sodom Pond, Adamant, discovered by chance while filming "Mud Season."

Although many of Rubin's photographs are stand-alones, we are also treated to a number of photo displays. We see the 'other-world, under-world' scenes of the Danby marble quarry; students learning to be master chefs or bakers at New England Culinary Institute, Montpelier; All Species Day, Montpelier, where many participants come dressed as their favorite plant or animal; Put People First rally in Montpelier, where 1,000 participants gave a Vermont version of Occupy Wall Street; and Family Weekend at Norwich University where freshman "rooks" perform military drills.

On planning a visit to the famous Bread & Puppet Museum in Glover, Rubin was amazed when Elka Schumann (wife of its founder Peter), told them "the barn is open, just come on in and turn on the lights, and turn them off when you are done." His photo display captures this national treasure in stunning color which he describes as a "seemingly infinite display of Peter's puppet creations... a revelation of imagination, art, craft, passion, and theatrical brilliance."



VERMONT

An outsider's inside view

PHOTOGRAPHS BY EDWARD L. RUBIN

We often hear someone defined as a "real Vermonter." You will see many of them here: William Brandt, 90, Marshfield, a Quaker and former forester who lives alone and grows his own vegetables; Mitzi Bowman, 90, of Montpelier, an activist for peace, justice, and anti-nuclear weapons; Pinky Clark, the "Unofficial Mayor" of Montpelier, a former dairyman and veteran volunteer; Eric Oberg, Calais, a premier granite sculptor; Jozef Miller, Peacham, a blacksmith and woodworker who built his own home; and Michelle Barton, the busy owner of Busy Bee Diner in Glover. And there are many more—farmers, crafts people, musicians, activists, mechanics, store owners, and others.

At one point Rubin photographed members of the Hartwick Boxing Club including its lone female boxer, 16-year-old Alana Webb. When he was putting the book together he realized he had forgotten to get model consent releases for the boxers. His 230-page

book ends with a fascinating story entitled 'Finding Alana' about his journey on many back roads, trying to find the boxers until he finally gets all the consent forms, also one from Alana's mother. The girl had told him during the photo shoot how she "liked boxing because no other girls did it and I knew I could do it." His Boxing Girl photo is amazing.

Publishing such a large work wasn't without difficulties. After a year and a half, Rubin decided that for better reproduction he had to scrap what was done and start over, in another computer program. Discouraged for sure, he began again. Rubin also discovered he needed more information for the photo captions. He then telephoned everyone in the book to get spouses and children's names and learn what they were doing and how they were making a living.

In doing this book, Rubin, "the Outsider in Vermont" was invited in. He discovered that "Vermonters lives are deeply tied, not only to each other, but to the land they live on" and is grateful to have shown the people and place he has come to care deeply about.

Vermont: An Outsider's Inside View by Edward L. Rubin is available at your bookseller for \$45 or can be purchased from the publisher, Fine Arts Press by calling (925) 303-2860. Visit www.fineartspress.com.

You can meet Edward Rubin and hear him talk about this book at several book & author events around Vermont in July including: July 11, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Bear Pond Books, Stowe, VT; July 11, 6 p.m., Northshire Bookstore, Manchester, VT; July 14, 7 p.m., The Galaxy Bookshop, Hardwick, VT; July 18, 7 p.m., Bartleby's Books, Wilmington, VT; July 20, 7 p.m., Bennington Bookstore, Bennington, VT; and July 25, 4 p.m., Bookstock Literary Festival, Woodstock, VT.

To learn more about Rubin's work visit edwardlrubin.com.



The Eloquent Page

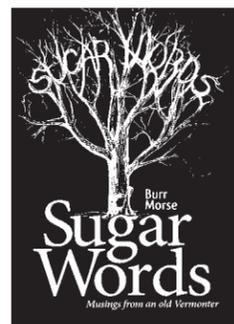
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# Cliff Tops Closed to Protect Nesting Peregrines

Hiking Vermont's hillsides is a great way to enjoy a spring day, but the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department and Audubon Vermont recommend you check to see if the area you're planning to hike or climb is open. Several cliff areas are currently closed to protect nesting peregrine falcons.

"Peregrine nesting is well underway this spring," said John Buck, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department biologist. "The falcons are very sensitive to human presence so we ask climbers and hikers to please avoid the nests with a respectful distance. The closures help people to choose an alternative route in advance."

## Cliffs and overlooks to avoid

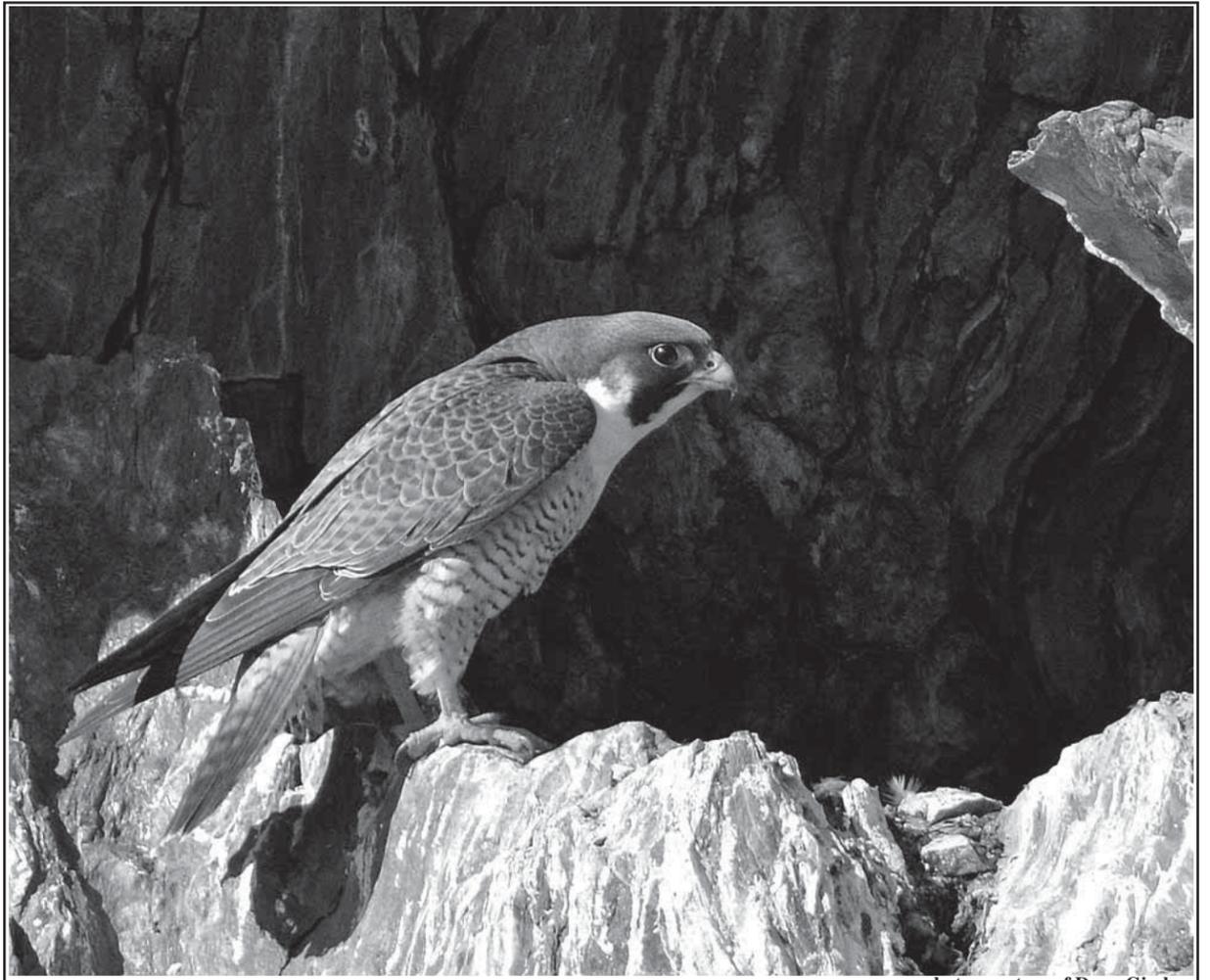
Barnet Roadcut in Barnet – Rt. 5 pullout closed  
Bolton Notch in Bolton – upper west cliff closed  
Deer Leap in Bristol – closed  
Fairlee Palisades in Fairlee – cliff top closed  
Marshfield Mt. in Marshfield – portions closed to climbing  
Mt. Horrid in Goshen – Great Cliff overlook closed  
Nichols Ledge in Woodbury – cliff top closed  
Rattlesnake Point in Salisbury – cliff top closed  
Snake Mt. in Addison – overlook south of pond closed  
Table Mt. in Manchester – closed

"The areas closed include the portions of the cliffs where the birds are nesting and the trails leading to the cliff tops or overlooks," said Buck. "In many cases the lower portions of the trails are still open. We will update the closure list as more nesting data are reported."

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department partners with Audubon Vermont to monitor the sites throughout the nesting season. These sites will remain closed until August 1, but if a falcon pair doesn't nest or if the nest is not successful, the sites will be reopened sooner.

According to Margaret Fowle with Audubon Vermont, 36 of the 40 territorial pairs monitored in 2014 attempted to nest. Twenty-seven nesting pairs were successful, producing at least 50 young falcons. The peregrine's recovery is a great success story," said Fowle. "The population continues to do well thanks to the efforts of our many volunteers and partners."

"We appreciate the public's support in respecting the cliff closures," said Buck. "The peregrine falcon was removed from the endangered species list in 2005 due, in part, to people respecting the falcon's nesting period. Continued



Peregrine falcon lands by it's nest.

photo courtesy of Doug Gimler

respect for the falcon will help ensure that peregrines remain part of Vermont's landscape."

What you can do to help Vermont peregrines:

- Respect cliff closures, and retreat from any cliff where you see peregrines
- Report any disturbance of nesting peregrines to your local game warden
- Report any sightings by calling Vermont Fish & Wildlife at 802-828-1000 or e-mailing [fwinformation@state.vt.us](mailto:fwinformation@state.vt.us).

Updated information on cliff closures is listed on the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department website at [www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com) or by calling (802) 828-1000.

## Private Transaction

When Truman sold his farm to younger folks he sought to make the deed out by himself, he didn't hold to trite legal descriptions. "It took me fifty years," he said, "to learn what I had bought because it wa'n't on paper." A certain piece of land, described To Wit: —he smiled to think how much the law left out. It mentioned nowhere that his hillside rose highest above the valley for its view, or that one half his field stood up on edge, pinned to the mountain's steepness, so it seemed, by two outcropping points of rusty ledge. It never mentioned that the morning sun most often chose to climb his pasture's line, or that the moon, friendly and dallying, at times played hide and seek among his pine. He wanted to write in what he was selling: those gnarled and twisted beech along the ridge that never would be lumber worth the cutting. Yet by their steadfast leaning to the weather, for him, they held a worth beyond the telling; that knoll of brush he had been quick to call a waste, that ripened to wild blueberries in fall. He'd name the alder swamp, lush and wild growing: it took him years to learn that he had bought a wealth in mountain springs, pure and full flowing. Nowhere was it mentioned, when he bought the land, of rights of animals to passage, food and shelter; or that one rocky mound long had been claimed by foxes as a den; or that a falling acorn might belong to him whose ears first heard it hit the ground. Somewhere he'd write in the observation that trees didn't care who they were growing for, they'd go on meeting season after season. He'd add one final sentence and admit really the land could not be owned, by reason that one life is too short quite to possess it.

—WILLIAM MUNDELL  
Newfane, VT, 1973

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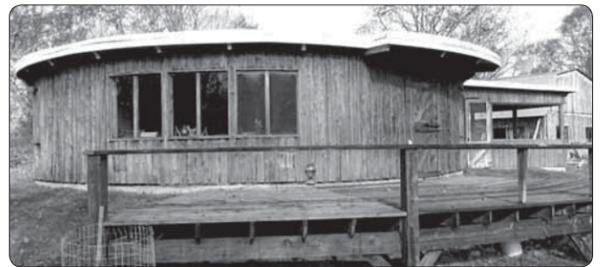
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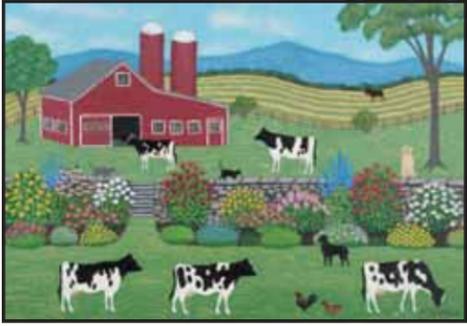
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photo by Nancy Cassidy

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